

SKETCH

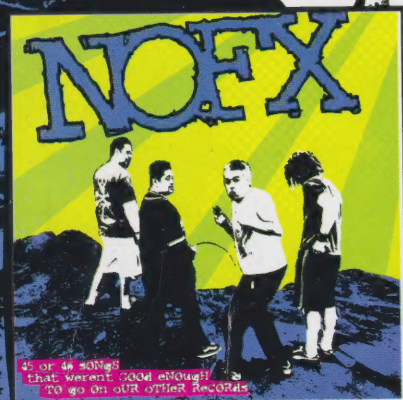
the mighty mighty bosstones
anti-flag.
pistol grip
no use for a name
mxpx
ultimate. fakebook
mind driver
never heard of it
the line.
the accidents
nuclear saturday

May 2002
#75

the shit, shower, and shave issue

NOFX

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that weren't GOOd eNOugh
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SUN-MAY 26 HARDCORE \$8 Drowningman Atreyu As Hope Dies Cast In Stone	MON-MAY 27 INDIE ROCK \$8 Lyndsay Diaries Stairwell Slow Coming Day Watashi Wa Reeve Oliver	SAT-JUN 1 INDIE PUNK \$8 Pretty Girls Make Graves Your Enemies Friends Bullet Train to Vegas Plus Special Guest	
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THU-JUN 6 PUNK \$9 Bratmobile Neon King Kong Plus Special Guests		FRI-JUN 7 PUNK \$9 The Stitches The Checkers The Numbers Pillbox Terror	SAT-JUN 8 HARDCORE \$8 Scars of Tomorrow Kylesa (ex Damad) Finer Truth Wrench
SUN-JUN 9 PUNK \$7 The Voids Pipedown Thought Riot Modley Lemon	FRI-JUN 14 HARDCORE \$8 Point of Recognition 7th Star • Fallin Plus Special Guests	SAT-JUN 15 PUNK \$10 Angry Samoans • The Krays NY Rel-X • Sidekick • Ciril	

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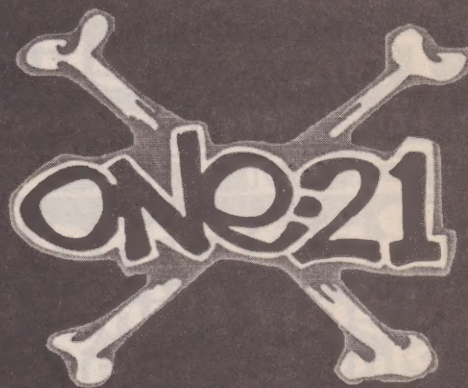
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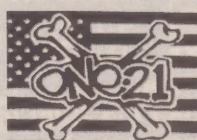


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FRI. MAY 17
American Nightmare
STRIKING DISTANCE
DEATH THREAT
TERROR
FADED GREY

SUN. MAY 19
 along the way
 no brainer
 sometime tomorrow
 laid, liberate the sloth
 uncivilized
 simple green
 better per case
 eyespell
 ephren

THU. MAY 23
 relapse recording artist
27
 its time to rock
 oris
 get the girl
 5 cent mozart

SAT. MAY 25
 Four of Five
 No Reason
 Out of Touch
 The Vomits
 Understated
 Thrush
 The Detentions

FRI. MAY 31
THE BLEED
 (from arizona)
 and then came a curious existence
 James and the Dead Whales
 Bullets over Broadway
 (formerly Blacker than Michael),
 Earn your keep
 Mooch

THUR. JUN 6
Demented Are Go
 (From the UK)
 Os Catalypticos (brazil)
 The Barnyard Ballers (SD)
 Dragstrip Demons (LA)
 Photon Torpedoes (Boston)
 Graveyard Shift (Seattle)

SAT. MAY 18
DEE DEE RAMONE
 (OF THE RAMONES)
 in opposition
 the scabs
 the crippled
 bikini bumps
 moral restraint

MON. MAY 20
 the beautiful mistake
NOT WAVING BUT DROWNING
 as hope dies
 genosha
 veil of tears

FRI. MAY 24
 Remember when
 Misused
 Randumb Thoughts
 The Midways
 Blueprint Carcrash
 Malephus
 Juliet's Music Box

SUN. MAY 26
 Affix, HSO
 faded into forgotten
 twisted fate
 no reason why
 spindle
 random existence
 ampathetic
 fallen hero
 divine alliance

WED. JUNE 5
HYPOCRISY
KILLSWITCH ENSLAVE
SOILWORK
 single bullet theory

FRI. JUNE 7
CODE★NAME
ROCKY
gameface
the slaves
 7 ft. Midget

SHOWCASE THEATRE CONTINUED

SAT. JUNE 8
 facedown records
 punk rock invasion
THE DEAL
ONE
HANNOVER SAINTS
SEVENTH STAR
HIT THE DECK

THUR JUN 13
Pitch BLACK
 (featuring ex Nerve Agents)
Divit
 (of Nitro Records)
 As I
 Crosstied
 6 Minute Heart Stop

SAT. JUNE 15
Powerhouse
 OAKLAND BRAND HARDCORE
PUNISHMENT
SKARE TACTIC
 PLUS GUESTS

FRI. JUNE 21
THE REZILLOS
SKULLS
INFECTED
 PLUS GUESTS

SAT. JUNE 29
xixxix
HOLLYWOOD HATE
BOOBIETRAP
 PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS

FRI. JULY 5
CALAVERA
 plus special guests

SAT. JULY 13
COMMIN CORRECT
Point of Recognition
ALL BETS OFF
 PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS

SUN. JUNE 9
 relapse records
 showcase
high on fire
MASTODON
 (featuring ex - Today is the Day)
the accident
 plus special guests

FRI. JUN 14
officer negative
THE DISCARDED
the havoc
civil defense
unscathed

THUR JUNE 20
lonely kings
 UNLUCKED
 BEN'S LITTLE LEAGUE
 EARN YOUR KEEP
 MOOCH
 AFTER TOMORROW

FRI. JUNE 28
BLEEDING THROUGH
every time i die
Norma Jean
 plus guests

SUN. JUNE 30
candiria
diecast
UNEARTH
 plus special guests

SAT. JULY 6
GRAVES
 (FEATURING MICHAEL GRAVES
 & DR. CHUD
 FORMERLY OF THE MISFITS)
SARDONICA
DEADMAN WALKING
 ANTI-AFFECT
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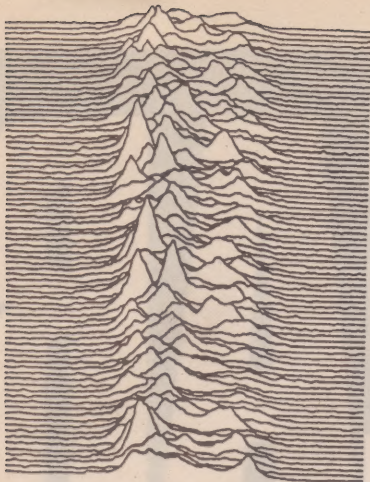
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Los Angeles

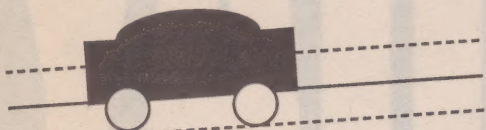
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3. a greeting or exclamation to your friend, Gene

-scott, skratch
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IN OUR MAILBOX

favorite quote from our crapbox:

"...i rolled on the floor and cracked up like crazy"

From: Destroyall
Subject: Tee hee hee
To: scott@skratchmagazine.com

HEY HOT SAUCE,
Good one on the april issue!!!! I cracked up.
Smooches
Kara
www.destroyallmusic.com

HI KARA,

Smooches to you, my dear. Does dear seem outdated? Perhaps, I should change that to cool chick--look at that.... c-h-i-k, nice. Wait, that could be sexist. How's this? You're the sexiest.

I'm sure you're working hard over there as usual. Glad the April ish gave you the giggle wiggles. You know--It's scary, this is going to be the nicest letter's section in a long time. No fun!

Mwah,
Scott, Skratch

subject:
To: Scott@skratchmagazine.com

I FUCKING LOVE THE APRIL ISSUE!! I was in the destroy office when they told me they stole Jen's yo-yo picture..and when skratch came out and i saw a similar lay out...i rolled on the floor and cracked up like crazy...

-bee

HEY BEE,

I thought that picture of Jen with the yo-yo's was a picture they set-up for their issue. Wow! Well, you heard it first. We had to hire big time casting agents in different states all over this God's green earth to track down a girl to look like her. This process took days, months, and even years, Bee. Finally, we found a girl. She was a crack addict. We fired her and then I found a cute friend to pose with Ho-Ho's. Did you know Ho-Ho's have 18g of fat? Either Did I. In fact, I do not know if Ho-Ho's have 18g of fat (the g is for grams and the rams is invisible-whuh?).

Thanks for the lettah!

Keep on truckin!
Scott, Skratch

HEY SCOTT,

The Lawrence Arms interview in the March issue looks fantastic. Thanks for tagging their name on the cover. We appreciate the support!

Vanessa
Fat Wreck

HI VANESSA,

Well, well, well. Glad you liked that spiffy little layout on the interview. Could have been better if we utilized the Hoefer Text font (a good sans serif if I may) at a 10 pt with a 120% horizontal scale, dropped a 12% opacity for a background layer, rendered the band name as a graphic and kicked a little kazam with a 22% drop shadow--you think?

Enjoy.

Skratch.

We love to see you smile and it shows.

Sincerely,
Scott, Skratch

Subject: LOL
To: Scott@skratchmagazine.com

I think you've topped yourself with this issue, scott. this "Destroy All" Skratch issue was hilarious. Gloria and I almost choked down 2nd street while reading it. Very funny. Any word from Charlie???

Damn, you look GOOD! Um, so...um, what's up???? Hahahahah.

Too funny.
Liz

HI LIZ,

It's nice to know a writer like you who writes for Skratch, Destroy All, along with a few others, recognizes it was just a joke. What does 2nd street taste like? Where were you reading it when you choked down 2nd street. I can only imagine the magnitude of the poop--yikeses.

Regarding the photo you speak of, a stunt double was used during the intensive photo shoot. Just to get the record straight, I never do my own stunts even if it's merely standing innocently in a hallway. Accidents can happen anytime. Bathtub Weekly reports, "Many models have sued large companies for large sums of money over Bath tub 'mishaps'." My body is worth way too much. However, with the big ad spending Militia Records now signed up for (thanks to James Cho)- I can now insure every single body part and be more confident with my future in modeling, stunts, trapeze demos, entry upcoming Kentucky Derbys, and a proud contestant in New Haven's Annual Hodge Podge 1/8 Mile Run and Sackbag Race.

We'll see you... in the magazine!

Love ya,
Scott, Skratch

From: "Huntington"
To: <scott@skratchmagazine.com>
Subject: April issue
Date: Mon, Apr 22, 2002, 1:37 PM

Just picked up your April issue, and had to give you props on the concept. Very funny!

Eric Huntington
Managing Editor
Modern Fix magazine

Eric,

Thanks! Nice to hear from you. Been digging the Fix. Keep on rocking!

Can I and like umm, like ummm, 10 friends crash at your pad during the San Diego Street Scene? We're real quiet (when we're drinkin')--just the sipping noise, that's all. Then, there's the puking and the Diaper Dances at 3:11am--but really we're harmless. You like chicken? We'll bring down the family feast from KFC. What do you say, Tender Roast?

By the way, what's your thoughts on Hoefer vs. Helvetica? Pay-per-view, next Saturday baby. I hope Hoefer doesn't bite in the 3rd round!

Cheers,
Scott, Skratch

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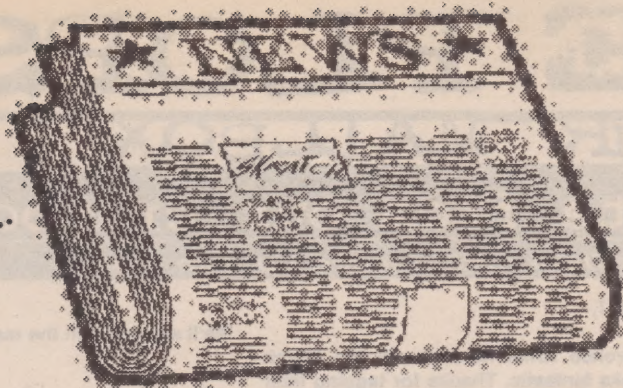
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****NOTE****
the date under each heading signifies when the news was released!!

Nameless Records signs Stewart
May 3
Nameless Records is proud to present their newest band, Stewart, who are planning to tour in the Mid-West/West in July, and on the East Coast in August. Look for their upcoming EP on May 14th, 2002 at the Nameless Records Store.

Drowning Fish Giveaway

May 2
Orange County's pop-punkers, Drowning Fish, are giving away a free comp to everyone that buys their new 15-song album on-line at www.drowningfish.com.

Hear the new NOFX and No Use For a Name records

May 2
Wondering what the new No Use For a Name and NOFX CDs sound like? Head on over to PunkSite.com, where they're streaming both releases. Enjoy.

The Impossibles may be gone, but their fans will never go away...

May 2
With the death of a popular band, there are almost always tributes. Such is the case with the Impossibles. Point your browser to <http://www.poseur.org/impossibles/>. There's also a section for Gabe and Rory's new band Slow Reader.

Punk is a Four Letter Word to Ben Weasel

May 2
Ben Weasel has completed another book titled, Punk is a Four Letter Word. It's a selection of columns, articles, essays and manifestos that Ben has written over the years. For more info checkout litterpunk.com

Matt Skiba to get a signature guitar

May 2
Alkaline Trio's official website reports that Matt Skiba has developed his very own guitar built to his own specifications and standards. It is made by GPC and is limited to 100 guitars. It is selling for \$549 and will be available to purchase in August.

Live Punk Video Search

PunkMusic.com is looking for live video footage of punk shows. If you have any good footage, please email Peej@FastMusic.com.

New Label

May 2
There's a new record label in New England. Raptor Walk Records is an independent label that operates out of Northern Connecticut...Hit up on the web at <http://www.chorusophone.com/raptorwalkrecords.html>

Star Strangled Bastards

May 1
Star Strangled Bastards are finishing up new record deal. Signed with Cortex records from Germany. visit <http://richierchrocks.tripod.com/starstrangledbastards/>

SME News

May 1
The re-release of Forbidden Meat is in stores now. Check the site for tour dates. www.sloppyteateaters.com

Reading Festival 2002

May 1

The upcoming Reading Festival, which takes place from August 23rd to the 25th. Both the official and unofficial sites now have line-ups on-line. Among the bands in attendance are The Strokes, Weezer, The White Stripes, Sum 41, The Hives, Less than Jake, The Offspring and NOFX.

Agnostic Front border trouble

May 1
Agnostic Front didn't get through the border for their four Canadian dates. They are sorry, and are postponing the dates rather than canceling. The new Toronto date will most likely be around July 25.

The Fest to end all fests...

May 1
It's The Fest. Taking place in Gainesville, FL on May 24th and 25th, this fest is putting every other one to shame, it seems. Over 60 bands will grace the stage in two days...

As I Rise And Scream

May 1
Punk band As I released their debut full length album entitled "Rise and Scream," on GC Records. www.asirocknroll.com

Brick Bath News

April 30
The San Diego, CA power groove/thrash metal band BRICK BATH on Pavement Records/Crash Music have launched their official website at www.brickbath.com

Sneak peak at the new Stereo CD

April 30
The Stereo has posted an MP3 featuring clips of the songs from their upcoming CD "Rewind + Record." To hear the tracks, head over to stereonline.com and the download option should pop up. The CD will be released on June 5th, on Fueled By Ramen Records.

Bouncing Souls split details

April 29
Here are some details on 'half of the upcoming split with Anti-Flag. The Bouncing Souls will be covering one Anti-Flag song, as well as covering "Less Than Free" by the now-defunct NJ band Sticks And Stones... The Souls' own Chunksaah Records will be releasing a Sticks And Stones anthology in the future as well, so watch for that.

Sex Pistols Golden Jubilee releases

April 29
Virgin will release "Jubilee - The Best of the Sex Pistols" on June 3rd, the "God Save The Queen" 7" 12" and CD single on May 27th and a June 3rd boxed set simply titled "Sex Pistols." ...

Nameless Records Releasing

April 29
Nameless Records is now taking song submissions for their upcoming compilation "Assume The Position 2." If any band is interested, then please go to www.namelessrecords.com.

New Travoltas MP3 & US Tour 2002 Update

April 29
Fastmusic is proud to announce the addition of a brand new Travoltas song on their mp3.com page. The MP3 is the title track to their upcoming release "Endless Summer," which will be out late

July on Fastmusic. Go to www.mp3.com/travoltas to hear the new song. Go to www.fastmusic.com.

The Distraction Get Signed!

April 28
One of DOTW's favorite OC local punk bands The Distraction just signed with Ditrnap records in Seattle. Their debut Full length is slated for release in September! Radio Blast records is doing the LP version in Europe, which will come out 1 month before it does here in the states!

Matt Sharp files lawsuit against former bandmates

April 28
Matt Sharp, founding bassist of Weezer, has filed a federal lawsuit against his former band mates, management and others. He is alleging that he is owed money for songs he co-wrote...

Midtown #90 on Billboard

April 26
Midtown debuts at an impressive No. 90 with Living Well is the Best Revenge. The band is currently on the road with Face to Face and the Movielife, and will head out on the Vans Warped Tour this summer.

New Get Up Kids track available

April 26
The band has posted a streaming version of the song "Overdue," the first track from their upcoming record "On A Wire" which is scheduled for release on May 14th.

Rock Kills Kid looking for a second guitar player

April 26, 2002
Anonymous writes Fearless records "Rock Kills Kid" who were formerly known as The Jeff Tucker Extravaganza, are in search of a second guitar player. If you have professional equipment and can tour extensively then send your letters of interest to rockkillskid@aol.com

Klub Phenomenon looking for local bands

April 26
Klub Phenomenon in Illinois is looking for local bands in the midwest that is looking to play with local, regional, and national acts. Please email Ryan Lameyer at aol.com for booking question and check out klubphenomenon.com or chameleoneent.com

Graves and Chud

April 25
Michael Graves and Dr. Chud (former members of the "NEW" Misfits) and their band The Web Of Dharma's full-length CD will be released May 15th 2002.

Introducing Sun and Moon

April 25
We've received some news lately from Kyle, of the new label Sun and Moon Records. The new label will be releasing a compilation later this year featuring bands like Grade, No Motiv, Autopilot Off, Jersey, Madcap, The Planet Smashers, Nicotine, and many more. The compilation will be titled "You Ain't What Ya Think" more information contact label at sunmoonrecords@hotmail.com

Death By Stereo drummer has emergency appendectomy

April 25
From Death By Stereo's messageboard: "Hey everybody, Our drummer Todd just got his appendix removed and is resting at home. He can't play drums for a while and is feeling pretty down. It would be cool if everyone could drop him a get well message and let him know we're all thinking about him. We're still writing the new record and still doing Warped so don't worry. Get well soon Todd! Thanks, Erem" Get well soon Todd...

New Bad Religion Video

April 25
Bad Religion have released the second video from "The Process Of Belief." Check out "Broken" at the band's video section.

Jeff Genocide Brutally Beaten

April 25
According to Jessica Mount, Jeff Genocide's wife, last Thursday Jeff Genocide of Cultural Genocide Records was in a brutal beating at a Mest Show in St. Pete, FL. Jeff is still in the hospital, but the family does not know if he will live. They are asking for your prayers. Please keep him your prayers

Big In Japan Guitarist Leaving Band?

April 25
According to sources close to the band, Big In Japan (Honest Dons label) guitarist Toddall Smailes may be leaving the band to play for Chicago's 4ChordMax. Go to 4ChordMax.net

The Kids Are Strung Out On Caring Glass...

April 24
FearPublicity writes "Glasceater will be touring on the first leg of Strung Out's 'American Paradox' tour which will also feature The Line and Rufio. This tour will start on May 17th in Las Vegas and will last till the end of May..."

Carus Line / Dillenger Escape Plan split

April 23
Both the web sites of the Dillenger Escape Plan and the Carus Line are reporting that the two bands will be releasing a split EP...

Left With Nothing signs to Rise Records

April 23
Washington hard-core band Left With Nothing has signed with Rise Records. They will enter the studio in June for an August release of CD EP. The band has recruited producer Steve Carter (Himsa) to work on the EP.

Agent Felix Did NOT Break Up

April 23
Somebody is going around the punk internet reporting that after a show last night in Davie, Florida, Agent Felix leaked information that they are breaking up. This rumor couldn't be further from the truth, as the band has no intentions of breaking up. Joe Knipp said "We have not broken up nor ever considered it."

Sinners & Saints CD Available now

April 23
Sinners and Saints, the Boston rock n' roll band made up of members of Blood For Blood, Ducky Boys and In My Eyes, have their debut CD on sale now through their web site at www.sinnersandsaints.net or through

www.bridge9.com

DIY Studio Looking for Investors

April 23
Tony at Nameless Records (www.namelessrecords.com) is trying to get a studio going. He is looking for donations from bands to help pay for the new studio and get it started...Email Tony at tony@namelessrecords.com for more info.

Klub Phenomenon looking for local bands

April 23
Klub Phenomenon in Illinois is looking for local bands in the midwest that is looking to play with local, regional, and national acts. Please email Ryan Lameyer at aol.com for booking question and check out klubphenomenon.com or chameleoneent.com

The Loads Load up!

April 22
The loads are going into the studio April 28th. Their recording 5 songs, Tim and Ray of smogtown (drummer and singer) are producing the recording. Check out The Loads and visit www.the-loads.cjb.net

Dee Dee Ramone to Play OC

April 22
Punk Icon Dee Dee Ramone of the Ramones will be playing in Orange County on May 24th @ the Shack in Anaheim with Deadman Walking, Allergic Reaction, Second Chance, Unlucky and DMS. Check www.deadman-walking.com

The Berlin Project and The Jigga Man?

April 22
On Tuesday April 16th ESPN aired their yearly sports and music awards show. The night included live performances by the Red Hot Chili Peppers and UnWritten Law. Pennywise receiving the award for most influential band in the sport of snowboarding. more info: www.berlin-project.com www.espn.com

Revelation signs Christensen

April 22
California-based label Revelation Records recently signed Louisville, KY indie band Christensen. Have secured an east coast tour with label mates Elliott, and friends, the Liars Academy. Their upcoming EP with Revelation Records is due out July 2, 2002.

Ben Weasel Goes Solo

April 22, 2002
As and avid Chicago music fan I am happy to report this: "BEN WEASEL'S" debut solo album, which was recorded in Chicago in February and produced by Mass Giorgini. It's called Fidatevi.

Bangs celebrate five years of Caring Glass...

April 22
Congratulations to Bangs for 5 years of rocking! Sarah Utter and Maggie Vail rock like crazy bandits and they put on a rowdy live show. The recent addition of every-instrument-type-guy Peter David Connelly on drums promises the most exciting Bangs album yet, which is due in Fall 2002.

Grover Dill wants to be heard

April 22
Grover Dill, a pop-punk band from Hamden, CT, wants to be heard. Check them out at www.groverdill.com

Everything that Rises

April 22
Everything that Rises, an emo-core/punk band from Easton MA (Boston area), has just wrapped up recording a 3 song EP at Raw Recordings in New York, more info: everythingthatrises.cjb.net

Hot Water studio / tour plans

April 19
Hot Water Music is finishing writing their next album and should be in the studio by May 10th. They are reporting that they have 20 songs written, 13 of which should end up on the record. The record is slated for release on Epitaph on October 8. The band will join the Warped Tour on June 20th-August 5th.

Fleadh

April 19
Helicot Records has announced that both The Dropkick Murphys and Joe Strummer & The Mescaleros will be playing the Fleadh Festival in Finsbury Park, London on June 8. The Helicats will be joined by The Pogues, The Dubliners and other bands repre-

senting various styles of folk influenced music.

The Clash's Westway to the World on DVD

April 19
Jon Bon Jovi's Bandersnatch writes us that the directors cut of the Clash's "Westway to the World" documentary is out on DVD in North America now. Clash On Broadway - Previously unseen U.S. footage from the band's personal collection, filmed in 1982 when The Clash went to New York...

Ted from MU330 is getting married

April 19
In May, Ted will be getting married to Heather from Climber and they'll be headed west on Rt. 66. We'll be doing a U.S. Tour to support "Ultra Panic" which was recorded with the help of Lance Alkaline, Tito Blue Meanies, NIL8, when they return sometime in the near future."

Haafish members to release album under name of Armstrong

April 19
Armstrong (Zach and Doni from Haafish) will be releasing their first record "Dick the Lion Hearted" July 9th on Owned and Operated records. It was produced by Bill Stevenson and Stephen Egerton, and as soon the record is released the band will go on a summer tour with All, Wretch Like Me and Sometown 1.

Classic Filth version of MTV CRiBS

April 19
Growing Indie Label Classic Filth Records will be working on a new punk video compilation that will feature Music Videos from Classic Filth Records Bands and a new show called "CFR: Shitholes." Where they will film CFR band and other punk bands houses, where they practice, and do live interviews. After getting tired of seeing all the rich homes and fancy cars of rappers and Blink 182, CFR President Bobby Bowling decided to show what real, local, underground, punk bands live like...

No Assorted Jelly Beans in studio

April 18
Hi all... Andrew at Kung Fu here. I just want to clear up any rumors about Assorted Jelly Beans. They currently are NOT recording anything. Drummer Ricky Falomir is currently playing with The Aquabats! <http://www.vandals.com/mvandals/html/news.htm>

Student Rick removes bass player

April 18
Student Rick has officially parted ways with Jason (bass player). It was a decision made by the band. The band will be keeping the same schedule with a fill in bass player, email the band at Studentrick@Studentrick.com or www.studentrick.com/041702.html

Jersey hitting the road with Big Wigs

April 18
After a tour of Canada with Ann Beretta, Burlington, Ontario's Jersey are ready to head out again with Big Wig and Madcap. The tour will cover mostly all of Ontario and Quebec with plans to tour some of the states as well.

Armor For Sleep/Victory Controversy

April 18
More news about Victory Records in today's edition of the news: The new Victory Style 5 cd contains a track from the band Armor For Sleep. Victory is going to be taking them off the Victory Style 5 cd. Go to Victorystyle.com or Victoryrecords.com and track 18 for the VS5 cd says NOT AVAILABLE.

MCA Acquires Portion Of Victory Records

April 18
According to Billboard/VNU eMedia, MCA Records has acquired a non-controlling 25% interest in Chicago's Victory Records from label founder Tony Brummel, who owns the remaining interest. Here's a quote from Brummel: "This deal is not about selling out; it is about selling in. I have found a partner that only wants to help the company and its artists flourish..."

Fairfanes/Gamits Heading out

April 18
The Fairfanes kick off a 5 week US tour starting April 19. The Gamits also leave April 19 to tour Europe for 6 weeks. Visit

www.suburbanhomerecords.com for more info.

Queers/Eyeliners Tour Dates

April 18
From the Lookout! Records newsletter.
They're here, they are the Queers and yes, we are used to it. The Queers are soon to be touring with the Eyeliners. punkmusic.com.

Volcom + Some Boats = One Hell Of A Show

April 17
Volcom Entertainment Presents "The Great Escape to Catalina Island" July 14th 2002 featuring Strung Out, Youth Brigade, The Deviates, Stranded and 1208! will be held at the Field of Dreams, Catalina Island July 14th 2002. Catalina Express (310) 519-1212.

Rancid / Blink 182 Side Project

April 17
Rancid and Blink182 members have joined forces to form The Transplants. The outfit features Rancid frontman Tim Armstrong, Blink182's Racer drummer Travis Barker and a former Rancid roadie, Rob Ashton. The Transplants' sound is said to take a hip-hop influence, combined with the more expected punk sound...

New Radio Show For Undiscovered Punk!

April 17
There is a live radio show dedicated to all the undiscovered punk bands around the world called "Maurer's 2 Hours of Power." This show is hosted by Paul Maurer on 92.3 WGTB Georgetown Radio, every Wednesday night from 10-12 pm EST. This show will be featuring the best in up-and-coming punk bands from around the globe. Contact Paul Maurer at other-sharp8484@aol.com.

Sub's lucky number is 13

April 16
Vmac writes the Subb web site (www.subbcentral.com), their new album will be out on July 16th and will be entitled Lucky 13.

Epitaph's summer Dillinger Escape Plan / Beatsleaks

April 16
Aside from the yearly "Punk O Rama" compilation and Division Of Laura Lee's "Black City," here's what Epitaph has up its sleeve for the summer. The label will be releasing an EP by The Dillinger Escape Plan titled "Irony Is A Dead Scene."

Bostonians sign w/Side One

April 16
It's official. The Mighty Mighty Bostonians will be releasing their next full-length album on independent SideOneDummy Records. The band will be releasing the brand new full-length CD on SideOneDummy July 9th entitled "A Jackknife To A Swan."

Equal Vision Records New MP3s

April 16
Equal Vision Records has just posted new songs by The Rocking Horse Winner, As Friends Rust, and The Stryder.

Vote for the River City Rebels

April 16
Victory punk rockers the River City Rebels have a video clip online at Much Music USA for "Small Town Pride." go to www.mnusa.tv/content/main/

Last Year and Goodlife Records

April 16
The Last Year is now working with Goodlife Records, who has worked with Poison The Well, Shai Hulud & many others. Till now the label has been made of mostly hardcore bands. Breaking the barrier, they're releasing a split cd with The Last Year (emotional punk rock) and 3 hardcore bands (Hammaria, Waking Kills The Dream & Horse The Band). The CD is titled "America's Hardcore" and features 3 songs from each artist. The CD will be made available May 5th.

Sub City Sampler Sale

April 15
Sub City Records has a pretty sweet deal running from now through April 26th. In celebration of the label and it's artists donating over \$100,000 to 19 different

charity causes, both Sub City samplers are on sale for 1 dollar each. This includes "Take Action" and last years hit "Plea for Peace / Take Action," which includes The Alkaline Trio, Thursday, AFI, Hot Water Music, Selby Tigers and Thrice along with 22 others.

Staygold finishes record, set to tour

April 15
Ross writes and says that Staygold's new full-length "Fills and Advice" will be available for mass consumption in mid-June. Look for a few MP3s on www.indieactionrecords.com in the coming weeks. Check www.xstaygoldx.com

NoMeansNo Leaves Alternative Tentacles

April 15
NoMeansNo recently informed their label that after 15 years, and 12 releases, they will be leaving the label and taking their catalog with them. The split is quoted by AT to be "amicable, yet the label feels shocked, saddened and bewildered by the announcement."

Avoid One Thing Plays On

April 15
From the Sideonedummy.com newsletter
Avoid One Thing has decided to continue their tour plans and head out with Flooding Molly starting in Boston next Thursday, April 18. Mighty Mighty Bosstone's drummer Joe the Kid will be playing on this tour. Dave's family and friends have encouraged AOT to continue on with the band and the tour. The tour is dedicated to Dave's memory. More power to em!

Urban Disturbance kicked out

April 15
Leas singer for Urban Disturbance was kicked out of the band today causing them to call off all the shows they have booked. The newsletter from the band reads "he was holding us back so we had to get rid of him and move on, we are looking for someone to replace him." Interested? e-mail UrbanDisturbance2@juno.com. However, the band will still record their upcoming CD with out a singer.

10ftmidget CD and tour

April 15
UK band 10ft midget have just announced their first cd which is completed through their website www.10ftmidget.co.uk.

Good Riddance Strikes

April 15
Fresh of the "Mobilize for Peace Tour," featuring bands including Anti-Flag, Strike Anywhere, The Code, and Thought Riot, Good Riddance has confirmed on their official website (www.good-riddance.com) that they will be hitting the road again with Strike Anywhere on a summer tour.

Black Power Records Label

April 15
Black Power Records Label is releasing two new full length CDs one compilation titled "straight outta 30 miles northeast of Compton" a CD featuring SGV bands Like AC63, Loose Nut, Threatening Verse, Dirty Lickers, SID, AD-HO, Car Crash, Griffind, infected and anti effect, plus bonus tracks by Powerless Flowers...Also The full length CD release of AC 63's "No Pride" 12 tracks of old school mayhem with the punk and roll edge... if you have any questions about the releases or Label Call 626-966-4827 ask for Abner or Michelle...

New Mustard Plug album and tour dates

April 15
"Hello all, As usual Mustard Plug have been busy little beavers but in ways you might not be aware of. For the past few months we've been writing brand new sounds for our upcoming record, tentatively titled "Yellow Number Five". We plan on recording it this June and releasing it (on Hopeless Records of course) this fall...

A not so major island for Thrice

April 12
Dustin the guitar player / singer had to say, "No, we didn't sign to Island or any other label. We've been talking to a few labels but

nothing has happened yet." There you have it folks. As of right now Thrice is still not on a major label." On a related note, Thrice is on tour now with the Movielife, MxPx, and Face To Face.

Kung Fu to re-release Ozma's Double Donkey Disc

April 12
The recent newsletter from Kung Fu Records states that the label will re-release Ozma's self-released album "The Double Donkey Disc" (sic) on June 25th. The album will be remixed, remastered, and will have new artwork. The album was originally released in 2001, a collection of Ozma's "Russian Goldfurn EP" and "The Bodytraps EP". The band is currently planning a small college and club tour of the Pacific Northwest before departing for this summer's Warped tour.

Next Avail release due this fall

April 12
Avail will be in the studio soon. Vocalist Tim Barry reportedly said their next album would be titled "Front Porch Stories." The band is planning to record the album in the same vein as 1994's "Dixie." The band will tour the USA and Europe following the release.

D.R.I. signs to Beer City

April 12
Metallic-hardcore band D.R.I. have apparently lost control of their label Rotten Records in a lawsuit with their former manager. However the band has signed to Beer City Records and is in the studio recording a new album.

Deep Elm Comp

April 12
Deep Elm has a new compilation series that has new unreleased material from bands that define their label. The label insists that although it's a sampler of Deep Elm bands, "it's not a sampler...it's a full-length CD of all new songs for the price of an EP." Ok, whatever. The new compilation is titled "Unreleased No. 1," and includes the first song ever recorded by Planes Mistaken For Stars, as well as other unreleased tracks from Seven Storey, Triple Fast Action, Slarmarket, Pop Unknown and Five Eight plus new recordings from Brandtson, Red Animal War, Dead Red Sea and others. For more info on this comp, visit www.deepelm.com

Dying Wish searching for bands

April 11
Attention bands. Dying Wish is searching for the next great band to sign onto their roster. If you're in a band that doesn't sound like half the other punk/mofole-rock bands out there, then Dying Wish wants to hear your demo. Visit their website at www.dyingwishrecords.com for details on how to submit your demo.

New Fat DVD and..

April 11
Fat will be releasing a DVD on May 7th called "Peepshow DVD," which will include both "Peepshow" and "Peepshow 2." The comp will also include bonus videos from bands like Lagwagon, Good Riddance, Sick Of It All, The Dickies, Frenzal Rhomb, and more. For more info on this stuff, visit fatwreck.com

Circle Jerks Enhanced CDs

April 11
Fastmusic Label and Portnerhouse Records have teamed up again to give you a cool Circle Jerks promotion. go to www.fastmusic.com

Shortside CDEP Release

April 11
Australia's Shortside is about to release a new CDEP entitled "Nothing Lasts and No One Cares." www.shortside.live.com.au

My child rocked out at River City

April 10
River City High is heading out on their first proper headlining US tour with Lefty, The Reunion Show, Showoff, and Student Rick tagging along. The tour runs from 4/12 all the way into June.

Horace Pinker finally release something else

April 10
After their mini-tour in Europe,

Horace Pinker is finally going to record the follow up to the great "Pop culture failure". In June, the band will go in to record with Steve Albini. Also, they are finally releasing the discography of "Seven mile road" this fall... www.horacepinker.com

Another Inspection 12 Update

April 10
This is straight from the band: The band is having personal difficulties and would like to do other things, however, they do plan to finish the tour. And they said if they don't break up they will definitely be taking some time off from each other after the tour is finished. There is no European tour.

BlankTV needs beta testers

April 10
BlankTV, the Net's largest home for punk, ska, oi, hardcore and indie music videos is ready to relaunch and needs a few people to help us test out our new system. If you're on a PC with at least a Pentium III processor, running Internet Explorer, please email webmaster@blanktv.com

New Material from Sonny

April 10
Sonny, the newest addition to the Fastmusic Label, are in the studio finishing up their new full-length, which will be released this summer. The band's debut full-length CD will be entitled "A Temporary Remedy," and will have 11 songs. mp3.com/sonnypunk

Amazing Larvs sign to Triple Threat Records

April 10
Canadian Punkers The Amazing Larvs just signed to Triple Threat Records, which is also in Canada. Eh. The band has just finished wrapping up recording, mastering, and then the disc is off to the plant. triplethreatrecords.com

Off Kilter releases debut CD

April 10
Flint, MI band Off Kilter has recently released their debut CD, entitled "And So It Begins," which is available through Interpunk.com.

Nuclear Saturday and the Magrs

April 8
Nuclear Saturday's new album "A Cinderella Story" on Silent Entertainment has just caught the attention of former Island Records President and ABC/Epic Records exec. Marshall Blonstein. The release is in negotiations for being picked up for distribution and promotion by the larger label.

Goldingfinger New Album Preview

April 8
Goldingfinger has a new album coming out called "Open Your Eyes," which will be released next month (May). Go to punks.com for a cool preview of the new record.

Slater

April 8
A relatively new band called Slater are releasing their second album in the spring titled, "Can't Get Through". Please visit their site at www.SpentRecords.com/Slater for sounds, show dates, and everything else you would possibly want to know.

Lucky Number Seven breaks up

April 8
After 5 years, punk band Lucky Number Seven decided to call it quits due to drummer Matt leaving the band, and the remaining members not wanting to continue without him. For more info, visit luckynumberseven.net

Avoid One Thing drummer Dave Kargch in critical condition

April 5
SideOneDummy is reporting that former Spring Heeled Jack, Pillers, and current Avoid One Thing drummer Dave Kargch is in the hospital in critical condition. He suffered from a brain aneurysm two days ago and is currently receiving care. We all would like to express our concern and best wishes to Dave, his family and friends.

AFI Fan Club

April 5
AFI have finally released information about their highly anticipated

fan club titled "The Despair Faction". Go to afireinside.net

No More Pinhead Circus

April 5
After ten years Denver's Pinhead Circus are throwing in the towel. After losing guitar player Jordan to school and soccer, the guys have decided to start a new band. Pinhead will be playing a few shows locally in April and touring for three weeks with Deviate in May and that will be it. Their last show is at the end of the tour in Boulder, CO on May 25th. pinheadcircus.com

No More American Steel

April 5
Lookout Records artists, American Steel just announced to their fans that the band will be breaking up. The news came as a surprise to fans as they announced it took place at a recent Sacramento show. They also told fans that they will be playing their last show on May 18th at Gilman in Berkeley... but "will continue to write and play music together and with others so you will not doubt be seeing from us all in the future."

Large Smallman Label Update

April 5
Moose: New Video and Much Music
The video for "No better way to show your love than a set of broken legs" is now finished and will be released to television in both Canada and the USA in late April. In other Moose news, the producers of Much Music's Loud program will be joining moose on part of their cross Canada tour this spring. From Quebec city, QC to Winnipeg, MB, Much Music will have a producer and a camera crew. Shows, AND Choke with new CD entitled "There's A Story to this Moral" will be the fifth release by this band, and includes ten tracks recorded February in Vancouver, BC with Paul Forges (Slayer, Treble Charger). For the entire news, visit smallmanrecords.com.

"Maladroitt" gets official

April 4
...and it's May 14th! This has been confirmed by both Weezer and their label. Also confirmed by the label and the band is a projected February 2003 release date for their fifth album, currently in production. Head on over to Weezer.com.

New Hey Mercedes due in July

April 4
HeyMercedes.com has come back with this news: the band will be releasing "The Weekend" EP on Vagrant Records this July. It will contain a remix of "Our Weekend Starts on Wednesday," "Everybody's Working for the Weak," "Save a Life," and "Wearing a Wire." The band has also announced preliminary plans for a full US/Canada tour in July.

New No Fun At All project...

April 4
News for all NO FUN AT ALL fans, as is now confirmed that the band is co-operation with Burning Heart Records will release a "best of" album sometimes this autumn. And as a very special bonus there will be 3 brand new songs recorded for it.

Death Threat/American Nightmares

April 4
The new DEATH THREAT full length For God & Government will be in stores April 23 on Triple Crown Records. Shortly after the release the band will be heading out on the road with American Nightmares.

New Fonzie's CD

April 4
Fonzie's new CD, "Built to Rock," was just released this past Tuesday, April 2nd on Jump Start Records. To celebrate the release of the CD the band has a rad new website set up at <http://www.fonzietime.com>. Fonzie is a four-piece melodic-punk-rock machine from Lisbon, Portugal. For more info about the band, check out <http://www.fonzietime.com> or <http://www.jumpstartrecords.com>.

Yellowcard Goes to Capitol

April 3
After lots and lots of negotiations, California's Yellowcard have left Lobster Records to go to Capitol Records. This was originally reported on their Official Website, which also states that their fans are the most important to them, and will always be first on their list. Yellowcard is the Pop-Punk

band with a Violin, and released their first LP on Lobster about a year ago entitled "One for the Kids".

International Ramones Tribute

April 3
Radical will be releasing an international Ramones tribute CD on May 28th, 2002 featuring bands from Belgium, Germany, France, Greece, Peru, Hungary and the U.S.A. The CD will be called RAMONES FOREVER, and a portion of the proceeds from this record will benefit the Joey Ramone Fund: "In Memory of Jeff Hyman" c/o New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center, 525 East 68th Street, Box 123, New York, NY 10021

Strung Out News

April 3
Strung Out is shooting a video for "The Well" their single of An American Paradox. After that they are going to do a US tour on May 17th thru June 29th.

Brian Denke Petition Online

April 2
Our comrades at the newly revamped punkROCKS.net are reporting: After countless recollections and T-pieces on the incident, everyone is certainly familiar with the situation surrounding Brian Denke's death in 1997. Denke's murderer, Dustin Camp, is now up for parole after serving just 3 months of an eight year sentence. <http://www.briandenke.org> to learn more.

Strung Out To Tour with Poison The Well in June

April 2
According to Trustkill's website, "Poison The Well have confirmed two upcoming tours... they will co-headline a tour with Glassjaw in May, and then tour with Strung Out in June."

New Vandals record to be released on Kung Fu

April 1
According to the Vandal's Home Page, their next release will be out on Kung Fu Records (which is run by Vandals bassist Joe Escalante...and will be out in August of this year).

VOLCOM ENT. HITS WARPED

April 1
This summer, Volcom Entertainment steps it up. "For Nose About to Rock" is the Volcom Entertainment stage on Warped Tour 2002. Featuring Volcom Ent bands: ARKHAM, PLACES TO PARK, PEPPER, and the LINE plus Epitaph bands The Deviates, Death by Stereo and 1208 at select locations as well as the "barbecue band" WANTED DEAD. Visit Volcom at www.volcom.com

New punk recording studio

April 1
Anonymous writes "The QC old school street punk vets, Riotgun, are opening the doors to their formally underground recording studio, Helldorado and making it available for the first time in 2 years to the punk populace. Apointments can be made through the Americore Magazine website or directly through Riotgun's mailto:riotgun@riotgun.com

Voice Of A Generation's new material seeing the light of day

April 1
Steffen writes "I talked to Burning Heart's streetpunks Voice Of A Generation on Friday for pure rock-de. A new studio album is supposed to come out before christmas."

Kiwi Punks Heading to the US and Europe

April 1
KiwiPunk writes "Somerset are about to embark on a world tour. This is a first for any New Zealand punk band. Check out their website at www.somerset.net."

Inked In Blood Tour

April 1
Inked In Blood is about to embark on a small tour in support of their DIY release "Forgiveness Comes..." For dates, more info on venues, times and prices go to www.inkedblood.qb.net.

Thursday enter Billboard Top 200

April 1
This week Thursday's "Full Collapse" catapulted onto the Billboard Top 200, debuting at #178. This massive gain puts Thursday at #10 on the Heatseekers Chart as well as #10 on the Indie Music Chart. For more info on Thursday go to the Victory Records website.

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TOXIC NARCOTIC



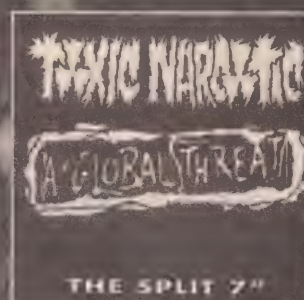
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THE SPLIT 7"

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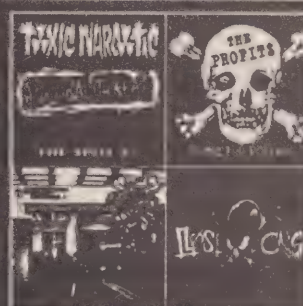
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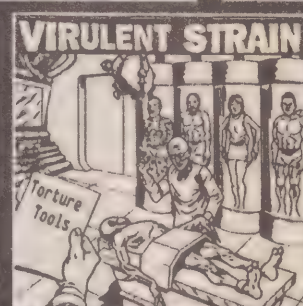
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KILLER BOSTON PUNK WITH MEMBERS
OF THE FREEZE & DARKBUSTER!



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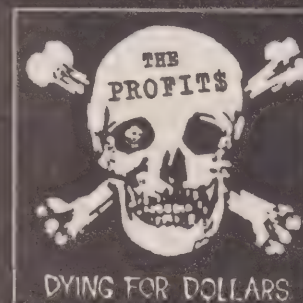
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TN / A.C.T. - THE PROFITS - TOMMY & THE
TERRORS - LOST CAUSE FOUR EPS ON ONE CD



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KILLER NYC PUNK BAND WITH MEMBERS OF
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I guess you wing the wong numbah?

The Prank Caller (what, you got a better name?) from Skratz is a skilled professional with telecommunication skills which far surpass your everyday cordless number pushing yappin yahoo. There are no playing games here, son. This is the real deal. Keeping the Victim (as we like to call it) on the line-- is no problem for this calling Calypso. If you have any prior hang-ups about what you're about to read, you're ringing the wong numbah. Got it, handset Harry? Now bow down you amateurs...The Prank Caller speaks.

Movie Phone?

Skratz: Hey. How ya doin'? Can I take a minute of your time to do a quick survey for the Tripadon Survey Company?

Victim: Oh shit! (clears throat)

Skratz: Is that OK, it will just take a minute?

Victim: Ya, that's fine.

Skratz: It's based on movies.

Victim: Oh, cool.

Skratz: Do you like Movies?

Victim(excitedly): Ya. I hate comedies, the only thing I like is action.

Skratz: OK. Great! Most of our questions are based on action movies.

Victim: They need to stop making all of these PG.-13 movies for little kids and start getting some good R rated movies in. I mean, show a little nipple every once in a while goddamn! (chuckles) You know back in the day you used to be able to see nudity as no big deal. Nowadays, they wanna make all the movies PG.-13 so all the dam kids can get in. It's like fuck, they shouldn't be watching that shit anyways.

Skratz: I don't know that I agree with you on that. I mean I don't think there should b nudity in movies at all.

Victim: You don't?

Skratz: Well, I am a parent. I have a 3 year old and there's a chance they can sneak into the theater and see stuff like that.

Victim: I'm a parent also you know, I have a 2 year old son and from a kids stand point, yes. I understand your concern.

Skratz: I'm not a homosexual by the way.

Victim: No, I didn't think that you were.

Skratz: And I'm not overweight.

Victim: (chuckling) Why would you be?

Skratz: I don't know, I just wanted to clear that up. I've been told that I sound like an old fat man on the phone and I'm not, I'm actually 36.

(Boss comes in talking to Skratz in background)
Boss: What the hell is going on here?!

Skratz to victim: Excuse me sir, one second.

Boss: What the hell is going on here? How long are you going to take?

Skratz: I'm doing the survey that you wanted me to do, man.

Boss: You got 50 ahead of you, what the fuck's goin' on?

Skratz: I'm doing this survey with this man.

Boss: You told 'em about your fat ass again didn't you? That's real funny., we are trying to take this seriously here!

(victim is laughing)

Skratz: I'm doing a survey with this man.

Boss: You know you have at least 50 more, right?

Skratz: I know, OK, all right.

Boss: Well how many more times do I have to tell you? You have 2 minutes!

(Door slams)

Skratz: Geez! Oh, my God!

Victim: (laughing) This is the most fun I've had all night!

Skratz: (back to victim) OK, he just left. Sorry about that sir.

Victim: No problem.

Skratz: Wow! Let me get through these ques-

"I've been told that I sound like an old fat man on the phone and I'm not..."

tions. What are your thoughts on Molly Ringwald?

Victim: Molly Ringwald? You mean as a person?

Skratz: Ya, as an actress, do you like her?

Victim: She sucks.

Skratz: She sucks, OK.

Victim: I don't like her, I don't like her look. I don't like her attitude. she's no good.

Skratz: And what don't you like about her attitude?

Victim: She plays in these movies and she supposed to be like the rich girl, or at least in her older movies. I guess it's more about her look. First of all she's got red hair and then those freckles, I'm just not with that.

Skratz: Ya, it's not your bag. Do you like freckles at all?

Victim: No. Any woman that's got freckles, blemishes, or basically any hints of imperfections at all I cant mess with 'em. I'm really picky when it comes to women.

Skratz: OK.

Victim(continues as if he's on a radio show or something): Grooming is like the #1 thing that women have to do. If you got fucked up feet and you smell or something. Na, it's all over.

Skratz: What about the cooch. You gotta shave that. (laughs nerdy)

Victim: Ya, no one wants hairs and shit.

Skratz: Have you ever had a really bushy one?

(Boss comes back- sfx: door slams behind him)

Boss (abruptly interrupts): What the hell is this?

(victim is laughing, Skratz starts talking to boss)

Skratz: What?

Boss (as if pointing to the survey rules): Where does it say anything about hygiene or anything like that in the survey?

Skratz: I didn't see that page. I'm asking him about Molly Ringwald.

Boss: What question are you on?

Skratz: I'm asking him about Molly Ringwald.

Boss: Which question is that? Are you even looking at your fucking paper!?

(victim is cracking up)

Boss (yells): Get outta here. I told you this was the last one! Get outta here!

(Boss leaves)

Skratz: Sorry sir.

Victim: It's OK. Hey, are you guys tricking with me?

Skratz (tone drops to a very low pitiful): No, I just got this job and I am just realizing how strict my boss is with this. It's kinda sad cuz I need the money. I have another kid coming. Let me ask you the rest of the questions. What are your thoughts on the violence in movies?

Victim: I think a lot of it is due to the Sept. 11th thing and I think they are trying to show America as being strong by making all these war movies. I think it's stupid. The way you send a message is not through movies. I saw Black Hawk Down, that was some violent shit. Stuff sticking through guys chests, that wasn't cool. I don't like too much violence and gore. I like a good story line. I like older movies like Rules of Engagement. I liked that. I'm actually watching it on cable right now. Like ones with Harrison Ford, where he's playing Jack Remsey., works for the White House, they are blowing up Suburbans and shit.

Skratz: Oh ya.

(Boss comes back in)

Boss: You better have this taken care of. Is this guy done?

Skratz: I'm on the second question.

Boss: The second question?! You know what get out! Get the hell out!

Skratz hangs up. click.

Voyeur

Skratch: Hi. is this *** Voyeur?
Victim: Yes it is.
Skratch: Hi D***. I'm the publicist for Right Productions. We actually have your name here. All you have to do is answer few questions and you will win a select collection of our new videos.
Victim: Not interested.
Skratch: It's actually 5 DVD's.
Victim: No thanks.
Skratch: Can I actually ask you a question sir?
Victim: Sure.
Skratch: How'd you get your name Voyeur?
Victim: (pause) Who is this?
Skratch: I'm just asking because we have your name here. I've been doing this for a while and I've never seen such a name and I think it's a fantastic name.
Victim: It's been around for a long time. It's French Canadian.
Skratch: Really? Cuz we do adult films and that's a GREAT name for an adult film star.
Victim: No interest.
Skratch: No, I wasn't asking I was just telling you that's a great name.
Victim: Thank you.
Skratch: You keep using that.
Victim: I will. OK thanks, bye.
Skratch: Bye.

Your Jacket

Victim: Hello.
Skratch: Yes, how are you doing? I was looking to...see I have your phone number here and I work at The Red Lion here in Huntington Beach. You are familiar with us, right.
Victim: You must have the wrong number. I don't know who you are.
Skratch: (annoyed) Well, I just came in here and someone passed this along to me and I manage here at The Red Lion and someone found your business card, or uh, jacket...Did you leave your jacket here? It's a blue blazer.
Victim: (annoyed) You must have the wrong number. I've never heard of you guys.
Skratch: But I have your business card here.
Victim: I've never been there. You must have the wrong number.
Skratch: What should I do with the jacket then?
Victim: Uhhhhhh, what number are you calling?
Skratch: I can wear it. 714-***-****.
Victim: I don't know that must be a mistake.
Skratch: I have a J-a-s-y Fasue.
Victim: Uh huh.
Skratch: It says some sort of weird street. I can't read very well. It's some sort of weird street in Huntington Beach. I mean I'll wear this jacket, I like it a lot and it fits. It's 100% wool. It's a nice jacket that you have here sir. What do you want me to do with it, do you want me to keep your jacket?
Victim: Well, uh, is there an address on the business card?
Skratch: I can't read it, it got a little wet from the water, or from the soft drinks or something. I just got this. We have a pile of shit over here and I'm just trying to contact everybody and get everything outta here and returned to the people cuz we believe in good customer service here. There's just a bunch of crap laying around everywhere. Some sunglasses, a ski mask, a little bit of everything.
Victim: Why don't you give me your address.
Skratch: Ya, let me give you that. It's Red Lion

17*** Beach Blvd. Are you familiar with Slater Road?
Victim: Uh huh.
Skratch: Great, we are close to that.
Victim: Slater and Beach?
Skratch: Ya, Uh huh. We are closer to Edinger, we are near Slater. Did you wanna come pick this thing up? I'll wear it!
Victim: What time do you guys close?
Skratch: 9:45.
Victim: OK, I'll pick it up tomorrow. I'm kinda curious. I don't think I've ever been there.
Skratch: Do you remember your blue blazer with gray buttons?
Victim: I have one but I'm not sure...It must be at home. But, what time do you open tomorrow?

"We have a pile of shit over here and I'm just trying to contact everybody and get everything outta here and returned to the people cuz we believe in good customer service here. There's just a bunch of crap laying around everywhere. Some sunglasses, a ski mask, a little bit of everything."

Skratch: (rushed) You know what sir, I have to go wait on a table, but let me pass you on to William here and he will help you with everything else sir.
Victim: OK.
William: Hi this is William.
Victim: Hi. The gentleman just told me I left something there.
William: Ya, is it a gray pair of pants.
Victim: Uh huh. I'll try to pick it up tomorrow.
William(interjects): They are size 38. OK?
Victim: (sounding confused) OK. Anyway, what time are you open tomorrow?
William: Well, we are open 24 hours, but this part of the building...well you could come by around 8:30.
Victim: I mean tomorrow night. What would be a good time?
William: Um, we are open at 8:30...it's a great pair of pants...and we will be closed around 10:00.
Victim: Uh huh. So, 8:30 would be a good time to pick up my stuff?
William: 8:30 in the morning.
Victim: Oh, no not in the morning, I mean at night.
William: Well, now there's no going back. I'll punch it in for 10 that's fine. The pants are here and everything is great.
Victim: Great.
William: We wont wear them either, I promise.
(Boss enters room)
Boss: (angry) HEY, what are you doing on the phone there? You are supposed to be fucking waiting a table out there right now!
William: (to boss) I...Bill told...with the...pants. (to victim) OK your pants are ready bye.
Victim: OK, bye now.

Punk Sucrets

Victim: Hello?
Skratch: Hey, are you in the band ****?
Victim: No, but my son is, he sings.
Skratch: Great, is he there?
Victim: Yes, he is.
Skratch: This is Jon we have a compilation CD that I'm really excited to talk to him about.
Victim: OK, hold on one minute.
Skratch: OK.
(long pause)
New Victim: Hello.
Skratch: Hi, this is Jonathan, I'm calling from Punk Sucrets. We are a new magazine and we

are doing a compilation CD.
Victim: Oh, cool.
Skratch: Ya. Are you guys hardcore?
Victim: We're old school punk.
Skratch: Old school punk. OK. I'm new here actually and I saw that you guys are in BYOFL.
Victim: Ya, BookYourOwnFuckingLife.org.
Skratch: Ya, you said that you guys are like old school punk?
Victim: Ya, we are like old school punk. We have some hardcore stuff you know.
Skratch: Cool, I'm actually into a lot of Hip-Hop.
Victim: (disappointed) Oh, really? We don't do that kind of stuff. We are more like Dead Kennedy's, Agent Orange, that kinda stuff.
Skratch: Dead who?
Victim: Dead Kennedy's.
Skratch: (pause) Oh. Ya, we got their sticker right here in front of me on the bulletin board. It's a cool logo. Do you like Straight Laced?
Victim: I haven't really listened to them that much.
Skratch: I think they are from Orange County. Well, I want to tell you about the comp. (sounding like he reading off a piece of paper) How, long, has, your, band, been, a, round, for?
Victim: A couple of months or so. I don't know like 8 or 9 months.
Skratch: OK. (sounding like a little kid) You guys play a lot of shows then, huh?
Victim: Ya.
Skratch: I'm sorry, let me get to the comp information. How long are your songs?
Victim: It varies. Like 3 minutes. We have ones that are less though. That's our average.
Skratch: OK well, we print...I mean press, (jumbles words) I guess that's the technical term... Press.
Victim(agrees): Ya.
Skratch: We do 2,000 CDs and then you also get an advertisement in our magazine. Punk Sucrets. We're a just starting off and we put out 10,000 copies of the magazine. They are photo copied and stapled.

go to
skratchmagazine.com

Victim: All right. So you guys want an initial investment from me?

Skratch: It does cost a little bit. I made some calls earlier, I know that bands get a little upset with pricing, but we really make it affordable, and we pass on the savings to you.

Victim: I see. So, did you start this company or are you just working for them?

Skratch: I'm new here at Punk Sucrets. Do you guys have your songs on CD?

Victim: Ya.

Skratch: Can I at least go ahead and give you a price?

Victim: Ya, go ahead.

Skratch: You know what, what is your name by the way?...I apologize for not asking sooner.

Victim: My name is Ryan.

Skratch: OK and you are the singer, right.

Victim: Right.

Skratch: OK, cool. (starts talking to himself like he is writing something down).I got it. OK, you said that 3 minutes is about the average length of your songs according to my notes here.

Victim: 3 minutes is our recording average.

Skratch: That's 180 seconds and then...let me get a calculator. (puts phone down) OK, 180... it's a weird formula...times 55...divide by 7 (lots of buttons being hit in background) just a second (more buttons being hit)...do you hit the percentage button? Hey, Tom (other cohort of Punk Sucrets), do I hit the percentage button?

Tom: (sighs) How's it goin' Mike...Let me see what you got goin' here...no no no no no...no.

Skratch: (to Tom) It's \$250 for a 3 minute song, that's what I figured out.

Tom: No no no... you are all wrong here it's \$2,500.

Skratch: (laughing) WHAT! You're kidding me! For three minutes?

Tom: Well, we are going in 30 second increments here. We could get a 30 second sample of the song and that would be about 700 bucks. Like 30 seconds of that 3 minute song...

Skratch: (cuts off Tom) Wait, hold on a minute....Ryan?

Victim: Ya.

Skratch: I'm sorry, you had a question and I couldn't hear you. This guy is yapping...I mean telling me the prices.

Victim: So wait, you guys are a defined company? Cuz you guys don't sound very professional. (giggling from Skratch and Tom)

Tom: Well, I mean we are punk rock. We're outta a garage here and everything.

Skratch: You should see it, there's like some gasoline right here next to me, but, it's a zine you know?

Victim (gets stern): See personally, I have my own marketing company. So you guys are calling me up...

Skratch: Can you market us? (Tom is talking in background)

Victim: Maybe.

Skratch: What do you charge? Maybe we can make a trade?

Victim: Well, there are sliding rates for bands, but you guys are a magazine and I don't even know if you guys are a defined business yet.

Skratch: What do you mean by defined?

Victim: Are you an organized business with potential?

Skratch (lacking confidence): (to Tom) We are organized right?

Tom: Ya, we are organized, I gotta file cabinet, (victim is laughing) that's pretty organized isn't it? (proud of himself) And it's a black one and it holds all my shit.

Victim: And it works?

Tom: Ya, it works.

Skratch: You know we should...Ryan sounds like a nice guy...maybe we should organize some sort of trade? Like his

I guess you
wing the wrong numbah?

"That's 180 seconds and then...let me get a calculator. (puts phone down) OK. 180... it's a weird formula...times 55...divide by 7 (lots of buttons being hit in background) just a second (more buttons being hit)...do you hit the percentage button?"

marketing service for a track on our compilation.

Tom: How about for like.....1,500 bucks, I'll give you like a minute and a half of your song?

Victim: For \$1,500 I can have my own CD pressed and released.

Tom: Did I mention this was 10,000 CDs here?

Victim: For \$1,500 I can have my songs recorded, 2,000 defined sets.

Skratch: I thought it was 1,000 CDs that we were pressing?

Tom (firms up): Well, maybe over there in Vasalia you can do that type of thing, but this is the big city here son...we are in Orange.

Victim: I grew up in North Hollywood.

Tom: well, that explains a lot.

Skratch (playfully flirts): Hmmmmm, he sounds kinda cute actually.

Tom: Well, you know, North Hollywood and all...but uh, are we gonna sign you up?

Skratch: Maybe we can work out a better deal with him? I mean he has a marketing company.

Tom: You know what, I don't think I'm going to take your deal actually. But, uh, I will keep it in mind.....This is just bullshit here.

Skratch: Oh, you mean you haven't heard of our zine. Well, that's cuz we haven't come out yet, we are going to be out in a month....Punk Sucrets.

Victim: Punk Sucrets, huh?

Skratch: Do you have the internet cuz you can check it out right now...punksucrets.com Also, I can get this all ITEMIZED.

Victim: What?

Tom: Do you know Epitaph?

Victim: Ya, I know Epitaph.

Tom: So do we.

Victim: Ya, a lot of people know Epitaph.

Skratch: Who's Epitaph?

Tom: Well you know, they put out...

Skratch: That water band?

Tom: What water band?

Skratch: H2O?

Victim: Do you know who even runs Epitaph?

Skratch: Is the owner Dave Burah-vitz?

Tom: No, that's Gurewitz

Skratch: Oh okay, Dave (slowly enunciating each syllable) Gurr-uh-witz

Skratch: No, Brett Gurewitz

Victim: This guy doesn't even know Gurewitz.

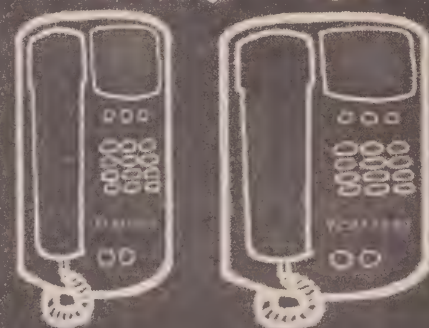
Skratch: Well, I know the water band!

Tom: Ya, how'd you know that? Oh, there's a CD right here. So, like I said, \$1,700 and you get a minute and a half of your song...What do you

say? What do you say? I can send it over right now. Can I get a fax number or something? We have email, we can send you the quote.

Skratch: Wait, I can itemize this!

Victim: you guys are morons....OK I gotta go guys, you don't sound like a good investment what so ever. Going from business sense I think I'm going to have to decline your offer.(hangs up)



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what THE hell do people really do in the bathroom?

name: Joshua Wright
age (optional): 25
male/female: m
occupation: Owner/Operator of DoughMain Records & The DoughMain Smoke Shop.

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 9
What exactly I do in the bathroom: It's questionable sometimes...usually just business, but there is always time for extra-curricular activities.
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 15-20min.
My favorite male cleansing product is: Eternity body wash.
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? WAX? I was coerced.
In the bathroom I never: Talk politics or religion.
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): At my ex-roommates apartment. It was shared between two dogs and two farm animals...so it seemed anyway.
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Sofia Vergara (Believe it or not, she's a hotter mom than Brooke Burke)

name: aaaa
age (optional): 18
occupation/company: label

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 4
What exactly I do in the bathroom is: nothing really poo a lot though
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 2 mins
My favorite feminine product is: none really..
The least "lady-like" thing I do/have done in the bathroom is: I have many of them
In the bathroom I never: use soap

name: Smitty
age (optional): 30
male/female: Male
occupation: Content Mgr. - BlankTV.com

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8.3
What exactly I do in the bathroom: Usually a medley of Black Flag/Agnostic Front/F.U.'s punctuated by girlish shrieks when the water gets too hot
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit:
 Shower - 10 min.
 Oral Hygiene - 12 min
 Soulful Introspection - 2 min.
 Buffing/Sanding - 4 min.
 Shaving - 24 min.
 First Aid - 7 min.
My favorite male cleansing product is: Goof-Off
The least "manly" thing I have done in the bathroom?
 My wife
In the bathroom I never: bend over for the soap
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): At the 820 squat in Santa Cruz, the fungus growing in the walls caused them to swell out, dropping tiles and black moldy clumps into the tub.
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: The Lunachicks, my wife & Bridget the Midget...yes!!

name: Carla
age: 24
male/female: - female
occupation: - film clerk, The Walt Disney Company

rate for personal hygiene: - 9.9
what exactly I do in the bathroom - shit, piss and shower
my average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 20-30 minutes
my favorite male cleaning product - mach 3
the lady like thing - play with the shower nozzle in the bathroom

"...I would shower with Cleopatra, I think she would be delightfully dominating."



photo of larry. quote is not from larry.

I never - go to the bathroom with the door closed
most disgusting bathroom - in a hourly rented hotel in Studio City. Dirty, two hand towels only which look used, stinky, the place made you itch!
If I could shower with anyone - it would be the cute little Cherry Jimenez, no just kidding!,Ashton Kutcher and Mark McGrath, with me right in between!!!!!!

name: phillip blunk
age (optional): 23
male/female: male
occupation: I run a label but we don't really make that much money so I guess I'm a bum or jobless loser.

I rate my personal hygiene (10 being best): 5
What exactly I do in the bathroom: mostly stand in the shower and think..and sometimes wash my hair but I never really change shirts or anything so maybe my hygiene would be a 1 or 0..
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: about 2 mins
My favorite male cleansing product is: anything free or cheap
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? shave I guess
In the bathroom I never: if it's not my own bathroom I don't touch anything..I have issues with public bathrooms..but in my own bathroom I never really use soap or wash my feet
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): I once lived in a punk house in Columbus Ohio and kids used to piss in it wen we had shows..but first they would stop up the tub so it would be one big thin of piss so about 6 months after this (and a few turds later)..I stopped going in That room..I think every one did..I started to shower at friends houses till I moved from that place..
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: I don't really like to shower with anyone..even aasha (my wife) because they always use all the hot water..or like the water to be kind cold...I like really hot water..they type that turns your flesh red.

Marcia Taylor

I rate my personal hygiene as an 8. I consider 10 to be loony, like my friend, Lupe, who used to make her boys take 2-3 baths per day and ironed all their clothing, including underwear, just before they put it on. 9 would be semi-loony and be someone who worries a lot about hygiene and showers immediately after sex.
What I do in the bathroom is go to the bathroom, wash and occasionally apply make-up and perfume.
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom is 1) about 5 minutes for a work day, 2) about 15 minutes if I'm

going out.
My favorite feminine product is perfume, right now it's "Romance".
The least "lady-like" thing I have done in the bathroom is ignore underarm hair during the winter months.
In the bathroom, I never eat.
The most disgusting bathtub I've ever seen was actually my ex-husband's shower, when we were dating. It was carpeted right up to the shower door, and the shower leaked, so there were REAL mushrooms growing in the carpet outside the shower door.
If I could shower with anybody, it would be Brad Pitt (duh!)

name: Marie
male/female: female

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 9
What exactly I do in the bathroom: almost everything! I practically live there.
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 1 hour
My favorite male cleaning product is: soap, do they have more than one product?
The least "lady-like" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? had a good shat and then said "ahh" afterward
In the bathroom I never: eat-just the thought of eating where I go #2 makes me ill
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): Wayne's-his originally white tub is a shade away from charcoal
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Ben kinsley

name: Mike Peaslee
age (optional): 25
male/female: male
occupation: audio engineer/ music journalist

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 7
What exactly I do in the bathroom: brush teeth, shower, shave
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 15 minutes
My favorite male cleansing product is: soap
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? shave my pubic hair when I'm in extra-gothic mode
In the bathroom I never: eat lunch
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): I was a plumber for several years. I have seen things that would make baby Jesus weep for humanity
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Christina Ricci

name: Dug
age (optional): Ouch!
male/female: Male
occupation: Gadfly

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 9
What exactly I do in the bathroom: Use the fixtures.
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: "getting ready" in the morning, 25 minutes, including shower.
My favorite male cleansing product is: handmade herbal soap
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? An enema
In the bathroom I never: eat
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): It was in a hotel in Paris, France. It was loaded with pubes.
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Juliette Binoche

name:sam
age (optional):23
male/female:female
occupation/company:retail whore

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8
What exactly I do in the bathroom: do the nasty then get clean
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 25 min
My favorite male cleaning product is: rogain
The least "lady-like" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? give head in the shower
In the bathroom I never: watch people pee
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): my friend Allen's house it was so dirty the roaches were climbing out as fast as they could
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Maggie Simpson

name: Mike SOS
age (optional): 27
male/female: male
occupation: u pick'em

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 7 on weekdays, below 5 on good weekends
What exactly I do in the bathroom: shit, shower, shave
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 3 minutes
My favorite male cleansing product is: electric shave
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? get "COOL" written on my ass
In the bathroom I never: eat dinner
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): mine after my brother shaves his head
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: my girl DeeJ

name:Mark Willingham
age (optional):24
male/female:Well Hung Male
occupation:Sales & Marketing Manager for pimpIT.com

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8
What exactly I do in the bathroom: Shit, Shave, Shower, and play Gameboy (use your imagination).
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit:
From shower to pomade it takes me 15-20 minutes.
My favorite feminine product is: The loofa, you know that thing that chicks use to wash themselves with. It totally works and chicks dig it as well.
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? Trim up down south or pluck my eyebrows.
In the bathroom I never: Hurry. I always take my time unless there is a girl present and then you never hurry them.
The most disgusting bathtub I've ever seen was/is (and why): My bros pad in San Diego. There were mutant forms of fungus, algae, and bacteria growing in their. Maybe it was the salt water but no one really knows for sure.
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Gwen Stefani because I know she could sing in the shower.

name: Scott Neil Miles
age (optional): 28
male/female: for guys, right?
occupation: mercenary

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 2, possibly 3 if I expect visitors or family.
What exactly I do in the bathroom: read, pizzle, dump, wipe, brush my teeth... and occasionally I return to swab the poop deck (sometimes I don't wipe my butt good enough and it gets a little smarmy down there!)
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 10 minutes.
My favorite feminine product is: Douche bags, no doubt... I mean, "douche bags" have a definite place in my heart, the words just roll off the tongue. The average American should integrate the words "douche bag" in their everyday vocabulary. Besides, you ever taste a suppository?
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? Sat down to pee. Oh, and one time I queaved.
In the bathroom I never: suck on the bottom end of a plunger.
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): A friend of mine named Karl. His bathtub was the worst because he would blow his choad in the shower and the drain was never good enough to

swallow it all...
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: all the midgets from the movie "Under the Rainbow"

name:jill king
age (optional):17
male/female:woywn
occupation/company:slave worker

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best):4
What exactly I do in the bathroom is:brush my teeth, fluff my hair, put on my eyes
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit:about 10 minutes
My favorite feminine product is: tampon-the greatest invention ever
The least "lady-like" thing I do/have done in the bathroom is: fart-real loud
In the bathroom I never: had sex, read playgirl, take naked pictures of my in the bathtub
The most disgusting bathtub I've ever seen was/is (and why): my best friends Elizabeth-there was a layer of mold on the ceiling
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: jomamma

name: Diane Scott
age (optional): 19
male/female: female
occupation/company: student!!

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 10 (of course!)
What exactly I do in the bathroom is: hm...everything, practically
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 30 minutes
My favorite feminine product is: depends on the day
The least "lady-like" thing I do/have done in the bathroom is: studied for a test
In the bathroom I never: talk on the phone
The most disgusting bathtub I've ever seen was/is (and nows if or when they clean it!
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: scott present! haha

name: scott present
male
occupation: publishitter, trapeze artist, the Red Lion

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8. I could shower more often.
What exactly I do in the bathroom: Wash, flush, and rinse. Occasionally, I'll take that cliché hardcore stance where I'm almost down on one knee or practice air pop punk guitar repeatedly jumping up in the air. It's cool. I invite you all to see it sometime—really a lotta fun.
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 25 minutes.
My favorite male cleansing product is: Gillette shaving gel. It's so soothing and gentle for my skin. Matter of fact, I'm getting antsy-pantsy thinking about shaving of a few pricks (on my face that is--nudge, nudge) right now.
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? Trim downstairs (come on, it's fun for the whole family).
In the bathroom I never: wash my car or do the dishes.
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): My roommates tub. Green is its favorite color. A good street cleaning is in order.
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Angelina Jolie-- although her swollen lips would likely swallow me whole (did that come out wrong?).

name: Natalie
age (optional): almost 26
male/female: female
occupation/company:Freelance writer/go-go dancer/dog stalker

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): Nine. I try to smell nice at all times.
What exactly I do in the bathroom: Shit, shower, and shave.
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: Under 15 minutes.
My favorite male cleaning product is: Um, my hand and a bar of soap?
The least "lady-like" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? No such thing. I'm all lady.
In the bathroom I never: Have regrets.
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): I choose to ignore filth.
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: My sexy boyfriend Bart and his pet iguana.

name:John Lorenc (Mr. Good Records)
age (optional):21
male/female:Male
occupation:Owner of Mr. Good Records

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8
What exactly I do in the bathroom:Take showers, go pee pee/poo poo.
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 10 mins.
My favorite male cleansing product is: Ebelyn Crabtree Soap (I hope it's for males)
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? Used bath and body works body spray.
In the bathroom I never: Wash Midgets.
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): Ocean City, NJ...all of the trashy hotels that high school and college kids rent out. They usually have one bathroom/bathtub per floor and it is so nasty when I think about it I just wanna puke.
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Brooke Burke from E's Wild On!

name: Maggie St.Thomas
age (optional): 23
male/female: Female
occupation/company: Being occupied is my occupation

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8+
What exactly I do in the bathroom: Floss, Brush my teeth, comb my hair, clean my ears, blow my nose, take a bath
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: Less than 5 minutes.
My favorite male cleaning product is: Can you repeat the question?
In the bathroom I never: Eat bacon.
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): Can't remember. Probably yours.
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Absolutely no one.

name: George Campos
age (optional): 27
male/female: male
occupation: photographer

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8
What exactly I do in the bathroom: a lot
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 20 min
My favorite feminine product is: scented body spray
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? shaved my underarms
In the bathroom I never: eat
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): A friends the water came out brown for like 5 minutes every time and the tub was stained to hell
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Bjork

name: Miss Namella J. Kim
age (optional): Under the overage
male/female: La Femme
occupation/company: everything you can't imagine

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 9.75
What exactly I do in the bathroom: shower, shave, pluck, crap, pee, diarrhea when I'm sick, brush teeth, vomit, rinse with Rembrant for old people, apply organic lavender deodorant, insert tampon, remove tampon, mini-facials once a week, raid the medicine cabinet for cheap highs, take long hot luxurious soaks with my honey...which leads to hot splashy fun, coiffure issues, scrub callused abused feet, wear bikini line, paint myself until the ugly goes away.
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 1 hour but when prompted 15 minutes
My favorite male cleaning product is: anything from Zith
The least "lady-like" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? I shit on the bathroom floor while puking
In the bathroom I never: close the door
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): My old apartment because my EX-room mate used to hang her skanky foul wet drawers on the knobs
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Iggy Pop, Stiv Bators, Elvis Costello, Nick Cave, Nick Tosches, Senor Chooontypants, Gorilla Monsoon, Alf, Joan Jett, Jude Law, the boys from Horizontal Action, ReTodd, Detroit Dale, The Lords of Altamont and the Ladies, Emile Zola, Dominick Dunne, Bob Cantu, JFK Jr.- all at once.

name:2Dank
age (optional):32
male/female: man
occupation: sales manager

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 9
What exactly I do in the bathroom: bath, bum, brush teeth, use the toilet, water plants.
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 5-20 minutes
My favorite male cleansing product is: soap
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? my girlfriendstampons
In the bathroom I never: skateboard
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is(and why): the Carlsbad house of sin. The name should say it all.
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: horny virgins.

name: Scott Harding
age (optional): Old enough to wipe my own butt
male/female: M
occupation: DeadOnTheWeb.com editor and singer of Split Decision

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 7
What exactly I do in the bathroom: Shit, Shower and Shave..and other stuff I would rather not talk about.
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 10 minutes, 60 minutes if I'm high
My favorite feminine product is: Those long pink things are pretty cool
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? Shaved my ass
In the bathroom I never: Piss in the sink
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is(and why): Mine, because I had some black fungus growing around it. I thought about tasting it, but that wouldn't be good.
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Bea Arthur

name: mike EYK
age (optional):20
male/female:guy
occupation:loss prevention

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8
What exactly I do in the bathroom: hair shower delicate
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 20 min.
My favorite feminine product is: hal uh yeah that one thing made by the people I don't use
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? remove nail polish
In the bathroom I never: eat
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is(and why): haha this one in a movie it had bugs and shite in it was gross
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: jenn from f-minus haha that would be rad or possibly Bettie page if she wasn't dead

name: Jon halperin
age (optional): 32
male/female: male
occupation: social worker/booking agent for chain reaction/owner of Vegas records

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8
What exactly I do in the bathroom: shower, go poo, go pee, brush my teeth, apply deodorant
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 15-20 minutes max
My favorite male cleansing product is: the Q-Tip
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? I have products from bath and body works, including the plug-in freshener, bath suds, and lotions
In the bathroom I never: watch TV
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is(and why): small town in France, echhhhh, grody, just a hole in the ground for the toilet
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: my girlfriend

name: PUCKETT
age (optional): 21
male/female: MALE
occupation: EDITOR IN CHIEF OF PUCKNATION DOT COM/RETAIL STUFF BY DAY

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8

What exactly I do in the bathroom: BATHE, BRUSH TEETH, DYE HAIR, DEFECATE, URINATE

My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 10 MINUTES

My favorite feminine product is: UM, TAMPONS?

The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? DYED MY HAIR PINK

In the bathroom I never: PEE IN THE SHOWER. THAT'S GROSS.

The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is(and why): MY DORM AT WESTERN KENTUCKY, BECAUSE EVERYONE PEEED IN THE SHOWER. YOU COULD SEE STREAMS GO BY UNDER THE STALLS.

If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: RACHEL LEIGH COOK, ONLY TO FEEL HUMILIATED WHEN SHE SAYS I DON'T HAVE A NICE BODY

name: SOO-SOO
age (optional): 26
male/female: FEMALE
occupation/company: dish washer/SKRATCHety mag

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8-i
don't LOVE to wash my hair everyday..the dye starts to wash out too fast.

What exactly I do in the bathroom is: Poop mostly....but brush my teeth, shave certain areas, shower naked with Nick Cage & Edward Norton....OH!! and wash

my hands before I eat!

My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 30 minutes

My favorite feminine product is: tampons! I luv em! wearing a mattress(pad) all day between your legs...sucks!!

In the bathroom I never: eat food.

If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Nicholas Cage & Edward Norton and OH! Drew Barrymore...for a little extra flavor!

name: Jason
age (optional): 27
male/female: m
occupation: student

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8

What exactly I do in the bathroom: shit,shave,shower

My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 20 min

My favorite feminine product is: vaginal excretions (a product of the female vagina)

The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? lifted weights

In the bathroom I never: dance

The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is(and why): my moms, she washes her dogs in it, its all full of dog hair

If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: a monkey and a midget

name: Phil Johnson
age (optional): 27
male/female: male
occupation:student

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 7

What exactly I do in the bathroom: Smack it up, flip it, and rub it down.

My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 7 minutes

My favorite feminine product is: birth control pills

The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? Shaved my arm pits and other areas.

In the bathroom I never: eat

The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is(and why): I can't think of one.

If I could shower with anybody other than my lovely, beautiful girlfriend, I would shower with: Cameron Diaz.

name: Aland Falide
age (optional): 19
male/female: Male
occupation: Student, writer, musician

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best):

9(sometimes I forget to clean behind the ears damnnit!)

What exactly I do in the bathroom: brush my teeth, think of Brittany spears, take a piss, think of Brittany spears, take a shower, think of spearing Brittany

My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 15-20 minutes

My favorite male cleansing product is: Swedish Penis Enlargement Cream.

The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? Tried on one of my mom's dresses.. No just kidding.. I once ran out of chapstick while my lips were hurting, so I had to use some female lip balm.

In the bathroom I never: urinate on the walls while singing Mary had a little lamb.

The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is(and why): I once took a trip to Vegas and checked into the hotel room before the maids had cleaned it, and well.... I guess the person who took a

"favorite feminine product...those little pocket rockets!!"



photo of namella. quote is not namella's.

shower there last was really hairy, because the entire shower was covered in loose bodily hair..It was sick!

If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Brittany Spears while Mandy Moore waits for her chance!

name: Country Neal
age (optional): young and fertile.
male/female: I prefer females, thank you.
occupation: Skrach Mag bitch.

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 9.5
What exactly I do in the bathroom: shower,release

bodily waste, read, eat, re-enact "Jesus Christ: Superstar" in the mirror.

My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 20-30 minutes,

depending on if I take a nap.

My favorite feminine product is: those tubes in that pink box... they make great ear cleaners.

The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? fuss over my hair...no, not that hair.

In the bathroom I never: juggle.

The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is(and why): My friend

Jerry's bathroom is disgusting. He hasn't cleaned it since he moved in.. the dirt moves upon its' own free will.

If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: tie: Promqueen/Lil' Kim/ Scott's roommate.

name:Ted Alvarez
age (optional):22
male/female:M
occupation:Writer/Noveler/Explorer

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 9

What exactly I do in the bathroom: The Three S's: Shit, Shower, and Shave

My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 15 Min.

My favorite male cleansing product is: Dove

The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? Shave my chest-for "the ladies"

In the bathroom I never: Eat

The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is(and why): An old friend in Austin TX had a bathtub that once held a possum in it. After he got rid of that, I'm sure it was christened with just about every body fluid known to man. It had as many varied rings around it as Saturn, and the tetanus-infested rust didn't turn me on either. I waited till I got home to shower, even though that was 3 hrs. away and I was filthy from hiking and riding.

If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Kirsten Dunst. Have you even fucking seen Spider-Man? Insane!

name: Mark A. Whitaker
age (optional): 27
male/female: Male
occupation: Free lance Photographer, Student

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8
What exactly I do in the bathroom: Use your imagination...
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 30 min.
My favorite male cleansing product is: I don't play favorites
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? Rollerbladed (have done, I sought counseling afterwards)
In the bathroom I never: Skateboard
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Yasmeen Bleeth

name: Michael
age (optional): 23
male/female: male
occupation: Graphic Designer

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8

What exactly I do in the bathroom: Shower, Apply deodorant, Shave every couple days or so, Brush my hair, Brush my teeth, rinse my mouth with mouthwash, and crap and piss often. Once in a while, shower sex.
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 20 minutes.
My favorite male cleansing product is: Shower - Zest, Hair - Aussie Shampoo, Mouthwash - Scope, Toothpaste - Crest/Occasionally with Rembrandt whitener added. Toilet Paper - Charmin or equivalent 2-ply soft tissue.
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? Had my toe-nails painted.
In the bathroom I never: eat.
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): in my aunt's house in Hanford, CA, mainly because the water was so poor, it looked like coke, and left dark rings around the tub.
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: my wife and Jenna Elfman.

name: Alexis Lockman
age (optional): old enough to know I have a lot of growing up to do
male/female: like what do I prefer? I hate both.
occupation/company: just another poverty stricken minority being held down by the white man

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 15-- I shower obsessively, to a weird and freakish extent.
What exactly I do in the bathroom is: Take hour long showers in boiling hot water till my skin is nice and pink then roll in some butter and garlic.
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: Depends where I'm going. To school, how ever long it takes to brush my teeth and pee. Going on a date....how ever long it takes to shave my legs plus ten minutes to straiten my hair and two minutes for make up. This is not interesting information what so ever. But in honesty I think getting ready to go some where is have the fun, it's the anticipation.
My favorite feminine product is: feminine product? I'm gonna have to go with the new and improve compact tampons by tampax, they fit in the palm of your hand so I can just stick it in my pocket and not look like I have a magic marker down my pants. But if your asking like, perfume, I'm going to have to go with a mix of China Rain oil, Gardinia oil, and CONTRADICITON by calvin Klein.

The least "lady-like" thing I do in the bathroom is: I talk on the phone while I pee, I admit it, but in my defense I always warn the person on the line.
In the bathroom I never: OK, I don't like this question, but once at a party some guy was passed out in front of the toilet on the floor and I really had to pee, I mean really, so I just sat down and peed with this poor guys head between my legs on the floor.
The most disgusting bathtub I've ever seen was/is (and why): I don't like this question either, but one time my toilet flooded and spilt all over the floor and it was my first apartment and I guess I forgot to buy a plunger and poop was all over the floor. Not one of my most shiny moments I must admit.

If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: I would most like to shower with Cleopatra, I think she would be delightfully dominating.

name: Tony Sly

age (optional): 31
male/female: Male
occupation: no use for a name

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 6-7
What exactly I do in the bathroom: shower, shave, shit, piss, party, brush, wash, flush
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 20 minutes
My favorite feminine product is: vagisil
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? applied make-up
In the bathroom I never: watch TV
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): my old apartment, cat used it as a litter box.

name: Jon Tuttle
age (optional): 24
male/female: male
occupation: personal chef to the stars

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 1 (I have to get 2 root canals and 23 cavities filled and have never understood the purpose of deodorant)
What exactly I do in the bathroom: That depends whether or not my wife is home
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: see above
My favorite feminine product is: Is this question supposed to be funny? I don't get it. Must be a west coast thing.
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? One time at band camp.....
In the bathroom I never: Brush my teeth (see above)you think I'm joking

The most disgusting bathtub I've ever seen was/is (and why): Lets see ...
1/4 cup olive oil
3 tomatillos, papery skins removed, roughly chopped
3 tablespoons chopped parsley
3 tablespoons chopped basil
3 tablespoons chopped tarragon
3 tablespoons water
3 cloves garlic, chopped
1/2 cup white wine
3 cups clam juice
1 lemon, juiced
Salt and freshly ground pepper, and from there well, you get the picture
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Eric Lemasters! He makes me hot.

Name: Texas Terri
Male/Female: Female (with balls bigger than most men)
Occupation: Lead Singer of Texas Terri & the Stiff Ones, Actor, Go-Go Dancer, Yoga Teacher, etc.

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 6
What exactly I do in the bathroom: Pee, Poop, Wash Face, Brush Teeth, Floss, Whore Bathe, Take full Shower every 3rd day in which I shave Arm Pits and Pussy and give myself a full blown scrub from head to toe, Shampoo Hair every 3rd Shower, Change Tampons during my monthly, Put on Makeup, Talk on phone while on Toilet, Have Sex in the Shower, Take Pictures

My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: Makeup - 5 mins., Full Shower - 15 mins., Full Shower w/Shampoo - 17 mins., Wash Face, Brush Teeth & Floss - 3 mins., Whore Bath - 1 min., Pee - 30 seconds, Poop - 1 min., Tampon change - 2 seconds, Sex in the Shower - until I'm Squeaky Clean!
My favorite male cleaning product is: Do Males HAVE Cleaning Products?
The least "lady-like" thing I do/have done in the bathroom?

Stick my finger up my ass to break up the shit when it's too God Damned Huge to come out of my Asshole without Ripping Me a New One! Ya satisfied with my answer, Asshole?
In the bathroom I never: Eat Meals, Masturbate, Read
The most disgusting bathtub I've ever seen was/is (and

why): I can't remember where or whose, but coming from someone who only takes full showers every 3 days, it was REALLY bad. One time I had to actually take a bath because there was no shower. I would not even sit in the tub; I kinda just squatted down and scrubbed my body real quick while splashing fresh running water from the tap on me the whole time. The sides and floor of the bathtub was so caked with filth and slim and there was clumps of long hair with soapy, dead skin residue in the drain, yuk! The worst shower was a stand up stall type with the walls and floor so slimy I did not want my body to touch the walls or I was gonna get some creepy fungus that would rot my skin, double yuk! I gotta go throw up now!
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Angelina Jolie and Billy Bob Thornton

name: JACQUELINE AMRAN
age (optional): 23
male/female: F

occupation/company: VICE PRESIDENT/ AGGRAVATED MUSIC

"I never... leave the toilet seat up. You don't want your guests to see the 'splashback'"



photo of texas terri by ward boutt.
quote is not from terri

never, EAT MY DINNER
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): THE BATH TUB AT THE OLD PRACTICE STUDIO BECAUSE PEOPLE THOUGHT IT WAS A TOILET.
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: PRESIDENT OF AGGRAVATED MUSIC, KOOL-AID JUG GUY, SPONGE BOB, JOSH HARTNETT, JIMMY FALLON

name: Bryan Rink
age (optional): 29
male/female: male
occupation: producer/editor PunkRock Television

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8
What exactly I do in the bathroom: Anything I want
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: I am a 1 minute man
My favorite feminine product is: summers eve
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? shave off the hair that grows between my eyebrows
In the bathroom I never: eat
The most disgusting bathtub I've ever seen was/is (and why): At a friends apartment, because they never bought one cleaning product in the year they lived there
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Carmen Elektra

name: Cinder
age (optional): Timeless Classic
male/female: F
occupation/company: Co-owner: Cinder Block Inc.

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 9
What exactly I do in the bathroom: Shit, shower, shave. And, of course, contemplate the various theories regarding the expansion/contraction of the universe.
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 30 minutes. Unless I do the full-on punk rock eye make-up. Then it takes a lot longer.
My favorite male cleaning product is: Scrotum floss.
The least "lady-like" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? Looked at my labia in the mirror.
In the bathroom I never: Breathe after my husband

comes out.

The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): In a friend's trailer home. Because she'd let her cat shit in it after the plumbing broke. If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Pink. Because she compared me to Wendy O. Williams in a recent Spin article

name: Tom 'Tearaway' Schulte
age (optional): 32
male/female: M
occupation: Computer Programmer

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8
What exactly I do in the bathroom: No 1, No 2 and washing up
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: mere minutes
My favorite feminine product is: La musica
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? Tried on a bra
In the bathroom I never: Find a million bucks
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): The tub at The Ice Pick in Muskegon, MI. It was just plain visible gross.
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Juliette Binoche

name: Shane
age (optional): Oldesk
male/female: Male
occupation: Dean
Malenkos Bass Player

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 6, I shower...sometimes
What exactly I do in the bathroom: poo and shower...sometimes
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: if I poo 20-30 minutes if I shower 2 minutes if I do both 22-32 minutes
My favorite feminine product is: Those little pocket rock-ets...you know...the...uh...I gotta go
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? Tuck it between my legs and yell "Look at me I'm a Girl!!!"
In the bathroom I never: Throw the toaster in the tub
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): The tub in Craig & Horseface's apartment, the reason - his toilet was broken and if you broke the scum seal on the top you would vomit, so people took to pissing in the tub, at least you could rinse it down...uhhg
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Yer mother...she's just so nice offering to wash it like that.

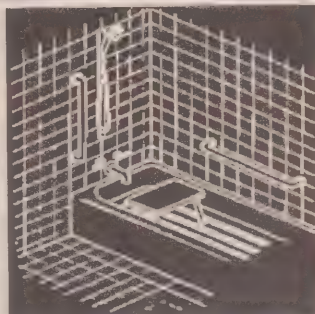
name: Brian "Clever Moniker" Spiegel
age (optional): 21
male/female: male
occupation: College student, wanna be journalist, wanna be ladies man, actually wanna be everything...

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 7
What exactly I do in the bathroom: brush teeth, shower, shave, prep for world domination, go to the bathroom.
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: five minutes (excluding shower).
My favorite feminine product is: alcohol.
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? Put nail polish on my nails in 2nd grade... little did I know that now I would be considered "punk rock".
In the bathroom I never: Play ping pong (well I don't).
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): I dunno, don't pay much attention to the bathtub
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Angelina Jolie, though I'm not ruling out Jessica Simpson or Vanessa Carlton... I'll just go with the flow, you know, see who I get a chance with first...

name: Jason Hallas
age (optional): 21
male/female: male
occupation: student / slacker / professional spooner

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 10
What exactly I do in the bathroom: spoon with the house pet popo.
My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 20 mins
My favorite feminine product is: mint scented douche
The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? pee'd sitting down.
In the bathroom I never: invite a girl in with clothes.
The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): 300 garces - San Francisco, ca. someone tried hiding the dook in the tub. puke surrounded the place, and I don't believe they ever cleaned the trash out.

"My Favorite feminine product is mint scented douche"



If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Melanie. One of the bangbus girls.

name: Liz Ortega
male/female: Female
occupation/company: Well Respected Journalist, Local Drunk, Mexican Ninja, Animal Lover

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 10-but that's only because I'm around people so much, I wouldn't want to offend. Believe me, I can make some eyelashes curl!
What exactly I do in the bathroom: That's none of your god-damn business! What don't I do in the bathroom! I fuckin do more reading on the toilet than I

do anywhere else. I sing in the bathroom and pretend I'm in Channel 3. I do a lot of odd things other than the norm.

My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit:

It usually takes me about 1 hour to get ready. It's not easy being beautiful.

My favorite male cleaning product is: Hey, as long as the guy cleans his ass, it doesn't matter what cleaning product he uses.

The least "lady-like" thing I do/have done in the bathroom?

Well, one night after watching WWF, I stood in front of the mirror and did the whole eyebrow thing that the Rock does. Then, in my deepest tone, I said "Can you smell what the Liz Dawg is cookin'?" I was so silly.

In the bathroom I never: I never have sex. It's so cold and dirty. Ok, I'm lying.

The most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is (and why): If it's disgusting, I won't even set foot in it. But I have seen some pretty raunchy bathrooms. I've seen one that had so much mold and mildew around the tub and toilet and even on the ceiling, it looked like a fuckin' lab experiment. Also, I remember washing my hands in someone's bathroom and there was pubes in the sink, floor, and on the walls...it was the sickest thing, man!

If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: If I could shower with anyone or anything, it would have to be my pit bull, Duke, because he could lick those hard to reach areas clean.

Jennifer FEMALE
Occupation: Administrative Asst.

Personal Hygiene: 10

In the bathroom: I primp myself for the day, this includes, showering, shaving, washing & styling hair, applying make-up, lotion & the ever important deodorant

Average "getting ready time": 30 mins.
Favorite Male cleaning product: Edge shave jelly

Least "lady-like" thing I do/done in bathroom: I've been know to take some manly shits

Most disgusting bathtub you've ever seen was/is: located at some shady hotel in Dessert Hot Springs for the following reasons, their was a serious case of "ring around the tub", complete with rust stains from where the water constantly drips from the facet, the tub wouldn't drain & the shower curtain had hints of mold

If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Joaquin Phoenix

name: Brian
age (optional): 26
male/female: male
occupation: drummer for The Shiners/promotions for Planetary Records

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 8
What exactly I do in the bathroom: The three s's--shit, shower, shave. Tooth brushing on a daily basis. Occasionally I'll get stuck in there if I happen to be reading something especially interesting while I'm taking care of the first s.

My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 1 minute if I'm not showering, about 15 if I am. Long showers are one of my vices.

My favorite feminine product is: Britney Spears

The least "manly" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? Shaving my nuts on a dare from my ex-girlfriend.

In the bathroom I never: Leave the toilet seat up. You don't want your guests to see the 'splashback.'

The most disgusting bathtub I've ever seen was/is (and why): It was in a house I moved into my junior year of college. It had been a home to a bunch of college radio DJs for the 5-6 years previously, and the porcelain was a mix of rust & mildew. Worst of all we found a bunch of old, rotted groceries in it. It took the landlord an extra 3 days to clean up the bathroom & kitchen.

If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with: Parker Posey or Lady Miss Kier from Dee-Lite. Or preferably both of them.

name: Lexa "Ophelia" Vonn
age (optional): 24
male/female: F
occupation/company: singer of Ophelia Rising

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 10
What exactly I do in the bathroom: before the show: hair and make-up after a candlelit bath, after the show: puke, pray, pass out

My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: 15 minutes

My favorite male cleaning product is: toilet paper

The least "lady-like" thing I do/have done in the bathroom? staged an Opheliaesque mock suicide in the bathtub after a lover's quarrel complete with message written on the tiles in real blood!

In the bathroom I never: let others take a bath unless they submit to being photographed

The most disgusting bathtub I've ever seen was/is (and why): mine. The first time I tried meth I was 19 and I puked up the sushi I had eaten earlier all over the bathtub. I cleaned it while I was still high, though.

STEVE MC CALL
21 year old
male
caffeine dealer

I rate my personal hygiene a 7.5/10
I use the bathroom to SHIT/SHOWER/SHAVE
My fav. male hygiene product is Irish Spring
The least manly thing I do in the bathroom is sing "Break the Ice" (The movie "RAD")while I shower, and I sometimes talk to a friend on the phone while I piss.

The most disgusting bathtub I have ever seen was the band Fall Out's. Their bathtub was full of mildew and pubes.

Instead of taking a shower with someone I would rather force David Walter Tressel to take a shower...he festers

name: Ilka
age (optional): old enough to know better (37 yrs.)
male/female: chick
occupation/company: publicity/Fly PR

I rate my personal hygiene (1-10, 10 being best): 10
What exactly I do in the bathroom: brush teeth, wash face, contact lenses, floss, shower, use the toilet (at which time I often read SKRATCH)

My average time "getting ready" in the bathroom per visit: - getting ready: about 45 min if I am showering

- other: varies
My favorite male cleaning product is:

none
The least "lady-like" thing I do/have done in the bathroom?

pick my nose
In the bathroom I never: eat

The most disgusting bathtub I've ever seen was/is (and why):

at an ex-boyfriends....it was filthy beyond belief!
If I could shower with anybody, I would shower with:

my current boyfriend:) he's SEXY!!!!!!
second choice (if I was single): Conan O'Brien

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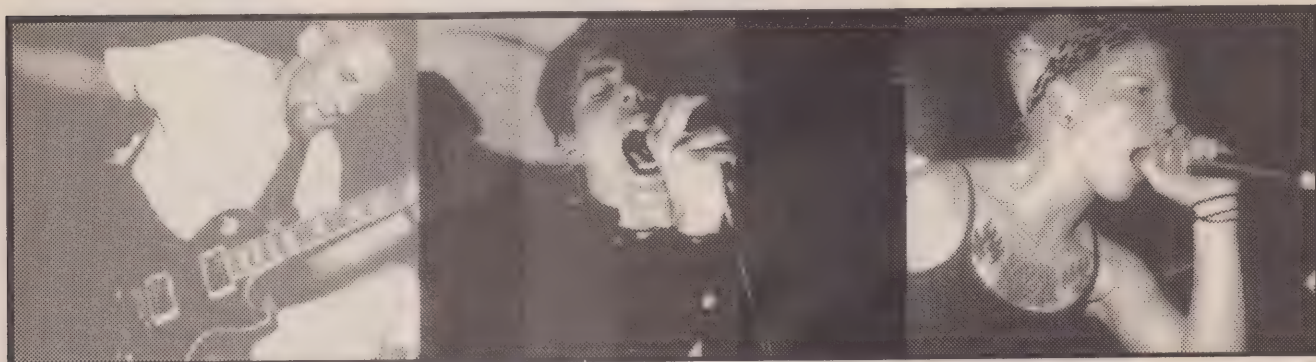


How'd that get here?
Who's leg is this?
I ordered no cheese!
That's not soap!
Just pound on it and it'll come out!
Oh shit!
Uhhhh Honey, I think that's bleach.
Did you kill it?
Can you swim?
You know, this is really good pizza.
I'm in four feet of water and I can't get it
to flush!
What the hell is that?
Damn, your dirty.
Oww, that got in my eye!
Do you think this will work as gel?



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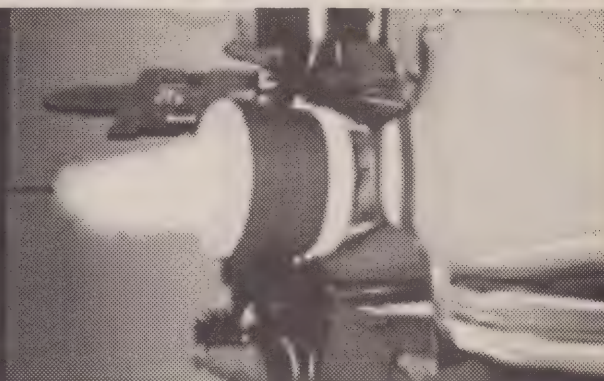
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- 1 Your grandma's lumpy floating ashes
- 2 Fred Durst's severed head
- 3 Chewed, rancid super-bowl party salami
- 4 The Fed Ex Guy--and he's a half an hour late
- 5 Your poop
- 6 Someone else's poop
- 7 Carrot Top
- 8 A Starbucks...those things are fucking everywhere.
- 9 A dozen or so curly black hairs - and you're blonde!
- 10 A Tele-marketer
- 11 Your electric eel collection
- 12 A 1982 Topps Roger Clemens rookie card
- 13 A plugged in fax machine
- 14 Semen
- 15 Seamen
- 16 Bill Adams
- 17 The Gas City, Iowa 75th marching band
- 18 This stupid survey
- 19 A guide to writing Top 10's that are funny
- 20 Kenny

TOP 20 THINGS YOU DON'T

WANT TO FIND IN YOUR

BATHTUB WATER:



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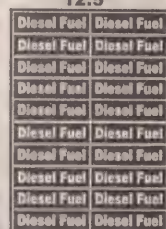
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**TOP
10**
**THINGS NOT
TO DO IN
THE TUB:**

play ping pong. (only because the paddles get soggy)

eat cottage cheese. (and stay away from the large curd)

practice your jenga skills. (I know, man. I lost 3 puzzle pieces in 99')

head butt the faucet. (It is so fun!)

go trick or treating. (not enough room for all the kids)

steam rice. (it's a safety hazard. what are you stupid?)

take a big gulp of the mr. bubbles. (it looks tasty though, don't it?)

play with your army figures. (take a guess where I found the missing boot camp)

river raft. (it's just too dangerous)

pose for a nudy magazine. (them photo flashes can blind ya')

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
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Pottie Talk - One

Male's Perspective

from a room

full of shit

By SHAY



Throughout history, man has been in search of the power and spiritual awareness that certain kinds of solitude can provide. Whether it a cave, a mountain peak or a corner of a darkened room, there remains one place in all the universe where a man can still have his personal privacy, his sanctuary and his nest away from the clawing, cruel and evil masses of the world. Ask any man equipped with modern plumbing and he's sure to agree — the almighty bathroom! Granted he's not locked in hell sharing this space with an obese wife and three snotty kids, the bathroom remains one of God's little gifts to the self.

After a shitty day (pun intended), it is the safety and peacefulness of the closed door and comfy, pish-posh space a bathroom provides that helps one rebuild the self and gather the strength to face another day. Maybe it's the water. The soothing trickles and drips that remind us of Mother Nature and her beauty. Or perhaps the cleansing factor that takes place inside a bathroom. And don't forget the colors — the calming pastels and fluffy towels with all those cute designs. Or maybe it's just the fact that it's a place where it's OK to touch ourselves as long and as often as we want without feeling "dirty" about it.

Though it's true you might share this area with other inmates/tenants/family members/animals, they all disappear once you step foot inside and close the door. It becomes your master bedroom, your throne and your palace of wisdom.

My bathroom is my library. My bathroom is what holds me together when the shit hits the fan (more pun!). My bathroom has always been my personal shrine and think machine. There

are no bills in the bathroom, no ringing phones or demanding debt collectors. This is MY time and my 99 cent toilet paper. I wipe at my own speed and as many times as I deem necessary with as many sheets possible. Yes, the gluttony of America!

I have many memories of my bathrooms growing up and living in different places. I've done my deeds in all kinds, from small, rusty and dilapidated to the beautiful and esteemed. They've all served their purpose and I have fond memories of growing and experiencing life in all of them.

The first bathroom I can remember was bright fucking orange. I remember my little sister sitting on the edge of the bathtub while I was sitting down to pee (yes, sometimes I like to sit and pee. If that makes me a pussy, then come here and ram your hotrod up my tight squirt canal). The toilet was directly across from the tub and for some reason I just decided to let it fly and began urinating all over my sister's legs and feet. Shit, I laughed for days on that one even while she screamed and demanded justice from the parental unit. That's a good bathroom story I still tell the kids at my youth program on Saturday afternoons.

Personally, I love the water. I could spend hours under the water and when I was a teen, I practically made showering illegal in 13 states. I would shower late at night, about 3a.m., after I had spun the shit out of all my D a n z i g records. This particular bathroom had a little cove and a seat built in it. Can you imagine? I would kick-back and just get lost in darkness and water with a

"The funniest part was getting it from the shower to the toilet as quickly as possible without feeling THE TURD squish in my hand. Boy, were those days." The funniest part was getting it from the shower to the toilet as quickly as possible — everyone would be asleep and the kingdom was mine.

Underneath the dripping ceilings, inside the white-and-black tiled walls, I found myself. The water was an escape and true form of therapy. I also found an image in the mirror that was undeniably me. I would stare at me, poke at me and try to accept what I saw. Perhaps most of my narcissistic behavior was due to the fact I was improperly socialized as a young child in my formative years. I have been born and born again many times behind the doors of this private place of refuge — the God Space. I go there to meet me, see how I'm doing and getting along. I am my friend and enemy all in one. My bathroom is my mental time machine of thought and ideas. Every book I ever read has spent many minutes and hours with me in there. Every new invention and mind in motion starts in the God Space. When I purchase new things such as a new pair of shoes or a new CD, it all must be acquainted with inside the bathroom. To break in any new apartment I must first break in the toilet, the sink and the shower. Inspect the walls, the floors the cracks in the tiles and along the shower's edges. I want to know it like I know myself. In a way, I think Elvis died in the most respectable manner. He was on his throne, man. Where else would a King choose to go out?

The act of bathroom masturbation is an art like no other. If I could count the times I've lurched over the sink knocking magazines in all directions! Having sex in the bathroom provides greater fantasies for future masturbation sessions. Please note: the bathroom must be kept clean and well respected for it is a place of self-worship!

I once discovered I had crabs while on the shitter in my God space. That's a no-brainer in the suckage department! The first time I shaved my head and the first time I became a cutter was all bathroom cell behavior. When I was a kid, I involved myself in actions that usually had no reasoning or objectives. I sometimes shit in my shower just to get a kick out of seeing a piece of shit laid out somewhere else rather than in the commode. The funniest part was getting it from the shower to the toilet as quickly as possible without feeling the turd squish in my hand. Boy, those were the days.

I'm sure each of us has countless hours of bathroom history that they wouldn't want shared. We do our most private activities behind bathroom doors. The first time you pull your partner into the bathroom to share an intimate moment watching each other

pee is a huge step in connecting with that special person (try assisting your female partner in the removal of her bloody napkins for added excitement). I'm

ble

without feeling THE

TURD squish in my

hand.

sure there are people reading this right now from the comfort of their own pottie-port. People lose their lives clinging to the porcelain throne and drooling onto the cold tile floor. The bathroom shows us as we really are. You can't change it or hide from it. It is a constant photograph for ourselves inside and out, and one we'll carry with us until our think machines stall and our inventions are all made obsolete.

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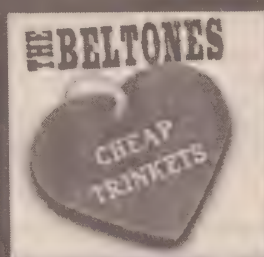
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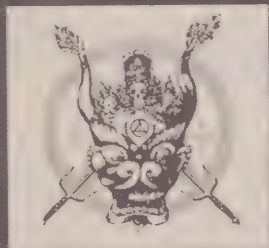
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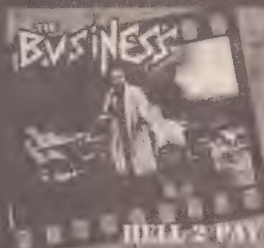
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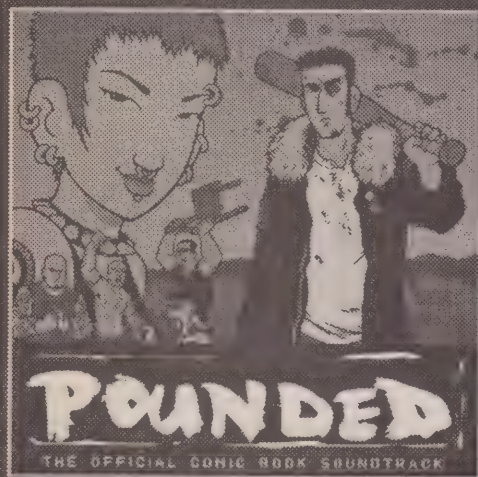


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The Bath Tub Fantasies

by Alexis Lockman



Mazzy was back. Wow, that was really close. No, Ozzy wouldn't do.

Call me old fashion but I like a little more romance, and bat blood just doesn't turn me on.

Hmmm. President Bush, now what would he be like in the tub? I closed my eyes and thought really hard when suddenly I looked next to me and realized that my candles were replaced with men in black suits and dark glasses staring over me. At the opposite end of the tub was a scrawny and saggy, let me emphasize saggy, 6. Bush junior. He looked very confused and kept his hands over his crotch nervously. He opened his mouth and said, "Hh, hh, hi, I'm, I'm, I'm the president of the u, u, United States." I stared repulsed. "May I, may I, can I touch your ... " "NO!" I screamed and dunked under the water. No, junior wouldn't do, too freaky in an old man way. I needed some one gentle and tender. I had it.

I closed my eyes and grinned, and when I opened them again the smell of cinnamon and candy canes hit me and there he sat. Santa Clause sat in my tub naked with his red hat and big black boots on. "Hi Santa," I whispered. "Hello Alexis," he whispered back. His big belly displaced the water whenever he inhaled. His long white beard was touching the very surface of the water, confusing where the bubbles ended and his beard began. He winked at me and I shyly smiled and pulled my knees up to make room for his big boots which he hung off the side of the tub. Here was a man whom understood my needs; tenderness and sweets. Little reindeer lay all around the tub sweetly licking their hooves. Candy cane candles lit the room nicely making the two of us glow in the dim light.

"Alexis, have you been a good girl this year?" he asked. I giggled, this is when things were going to get good. "No Santa,

actually I've been a really bad girl!"

Suddenly the bathroom door opened and an old hag came storming in screaming like a witch on fire. "You son of a bitch Nicolas, get out of that floozy's tub!" She came at him with a big stick and they ran around the bathtub yelling obscenities. I stood up proudly in my birthday suit, which I'm the first to admit could use some sit ups and lay off the milk shakes, and declared, "I'm not a floozy, I resent that you hag!" She looked at me through her little round bifocals and said, "Well you may not be a floozy but you have the body of a 12-year-old boy." I sat back in the tub with my jaw dropped. I dipped back in the tub again till there was silence. I looked at my self through the soapy water. At least I had the body of a mature 12-year-old boy! I thought maybe I needed a feminine touch so I lifted my head out of the water.

"There you are, I was wondering how long you were going to stay down there!" Sarah Jessica Parker said as she handed me Scotch and soda. I smiled and sipped the drink out of the bright pink glass. She wore nothing but some black strappy sandals and her curly hair loosely pinned up. "Did you see these?" pointing to her shoes, "oh my god, they're BCBG Max Mara shoes on sale at Barney's!" I looked at the dainty sandals as she held her soapy legs out of the tub. She lit a cigarette for me and one for herself. We went on to talk about men, sex, shopping and some more sex until I got bored and she kissed my cheek goodbye and walked out the bathroom door in a plush white robe. Well, I was alone again and god was calling.

Suddenly a priest sat next to me wearing one of those priest neck things (I don't know what they are called!) and thigh high stockings held up by a leather garter belt. I guess the shock was all over my face because he said, "What child are you staring at?" And I replied, "Forgive me father, I just didn't

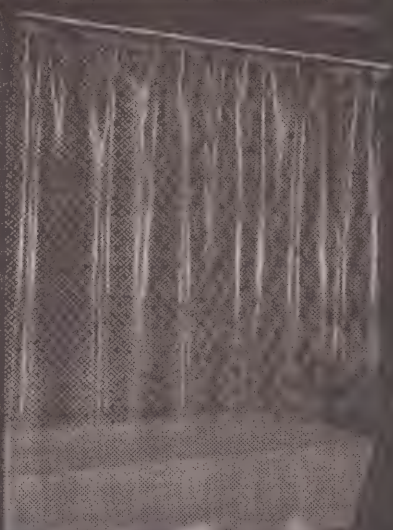
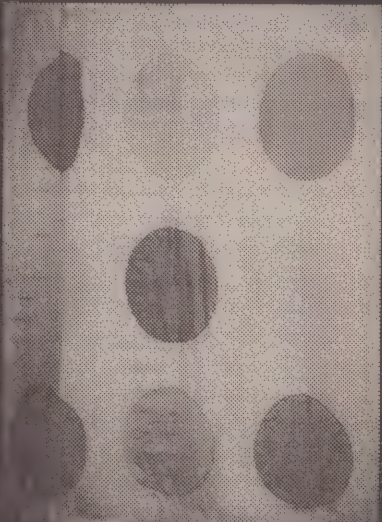
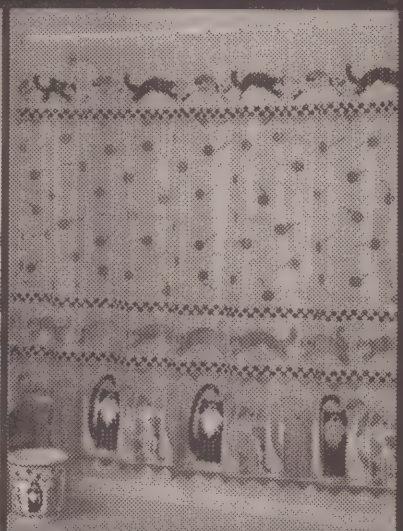
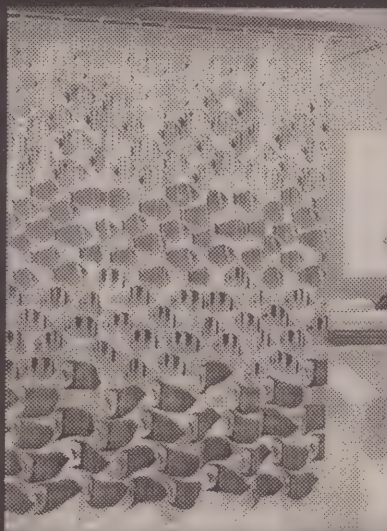
realize that was what you priests wore under those dark heavy robes." He looked at me flustered, "Well of course you didn't, you're not a young boy." I felt ill. "Well child, when is the last time you confessed?" I thought really hard. "Seven years father." "Well let's get to it, shall we?" This was a lot of pressure, but I went on. "OK, forgive me father for I have sinned, it's been seven years since my last confession. I cursed my mother and father ... " "Do they have a son?" "Yes." "Did you touch him?" "No, that's sick!" "Go on." "I had premarital sex ... " "With a young boy?" "No, god will you get over that?" "Are you sure you haven't had thoughts of young boys?" "Well, OK when I was in high school there were a few freshmen I wanted to ... Wait! No, I'm not talking to you about this, stay away from little boys!" I clicked my heels three times and he was gone.

This was not sexy, these were not the romantic fantasies I had in mind. I was sorely disappointed. Can't a girl just have a pleasurable bath these days? Suddenly it came to me. This was it, I mean why hadn't I thought of this before? I've fantasized about this millions of times over and over in my head but it hadn't occurred to me till this very moment. I jumped out of the tub and ran to the stereo where I put on Danzig's "Mother" and raced back to the bathroom and there he was amongst all my suds and candles; THE ROCK! He grinned and my heart fluttered. His huge muscles glimmered in the candlelight making him look like a Greek god. He wore nothing but a skimpy loin cloth which soon was gone, let me just tell you that the curiosity about what was underneath had been killing me until this very moment. I wasn't the least bit disappointed. I carefully stepped in the tub and he wrapped his bone-crushing arms around me and then the damn CD began to skip, and suddenly he was gone. Just me in a tub full of lukewarm water.

While soaking in a tub of hot water and pink Mr. Bubble suds I realized something; I have never taken a bubble bath with any one in my adult life. And why not? I mean here I am completely naked surrounded by the sweet smell of vanilla candles and Mazzy Star oozing out of my stereo, isn't this how most porno's start? And here I am all alone? My goodness, this is like foreplay grounds here, but being the single girl I am, whom would I bathe with? Hmmm, time to fantasize. I dunked my head under the water for a few seconds and let the silence of the water help me think.

We've had way too much talk about Ozzy Osbourne lately; I wondered what he would be like in the tub. So my imagination invited him over. Suddenly the bathroom was full of smoky incense and all the candles were black. No longer was Mazzy Star putting me in a dreamy state, but Black Sabbath blasted out of my poor speakers. I looked at the opposite end of the tub and there was Ozzy, stark naked with his long black hair around his bleach white shoulders and the black rings of make up around his eyes. I was terrified. Suddenly he smiled really big, you know that smile he makes like he's going to attack and he gets that insane look in his eyes that assures you he's lost it? That's the wicked smile he flashed before he sprang forward and tried to bite me, chasing me around the tub with two dead bats in his hands. I screamed in terror as bat blood dripped into my once serene water. I closed my eyes and shook my head violently. He was gone, the candles where white again and

shower curtains I wouldn't be caught dead in.





Harrison Winthrop III: Memoirs of the last American Blue Blood.

Chapter 71: Cleanliness, Godliness, and Car Wash Vestibules.

by Country Neal



Oh, the fun I had frolicking in the bath. I was in there for lifetimes, until my fingers became rigid and wrinkled and the water gray and tepid. I was the master of my own ocean there. I controlled the tides and the craft that set forth upon it. Oh the fun.

I mainly found my wash time amusement through toy watercraft--tankers and fishing boats and submarines and the like. I was an ornery sea god, I must say-- sinking entire unsuspecting fleets with the wave of my hand, then, in an act of peculiar bi-polar behavior, gently raising them from the depths to which I had most forcibly damned them to, only to devilishly sink them again a few moments later with more inhumane force than previously seen in any such body of water. Many an imaginary sailor perished that day, I must tell you! I would thrash about giddily, seemingly without control, for hours to the dismay of my mother, who usually spent several minutes grunting obscenities with mop and bucket, tending to the floor below the tub.

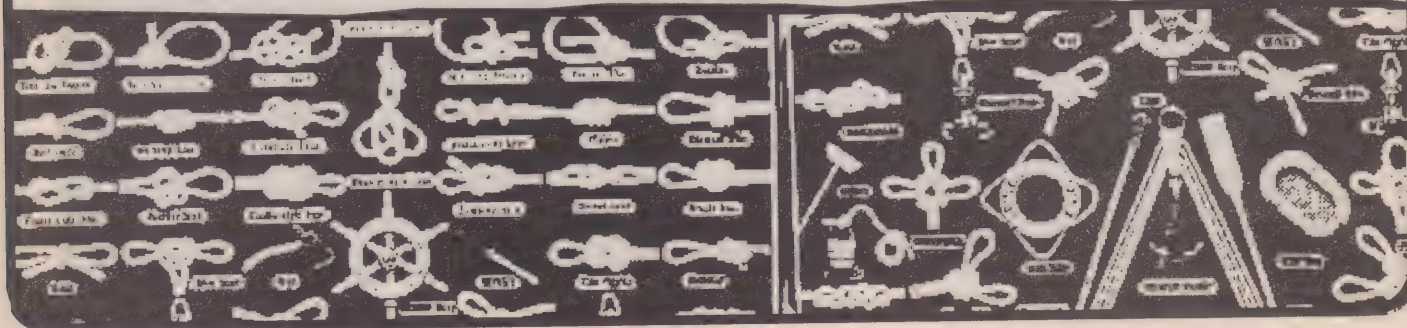
This ritual went on for quite some time, years as it be, until one day the unthinkable happened. My beautiful, resilient, faithful fleet had disappeared from their lot under the sink, next

to the feminine hygienic products, mysteriously never to be seen again. That day's bath consisted merely of improving and cleansing my outward appearance, as there was no scrubbing away the markings left inward. I would not find out what happened to my beautiful boats until the twilight of my mother's life. Apparently they had come under fire from a merciless pair of high-heeled Ferragamo shoes and did not survive.

As inherent in all Winthropes, I was not going to let a minor setback ruin my fanciful bath time frolicking, no matter how pontifical Mother was set upon being. I soon found amusement in the very thing that was vital to bathing--the soap. After much novice alchemy, I was able to concoct the perfect soap bubble to water formulae, perfect for sculpting whatever my imagination could project. I soon became a master of disguise--a pirate, genie, motorcyclist, Santa Claus, beatnik, and a man of elderly status. Nothing was beyond my reach as long as the character had a funny hat and some sort of unkempt facial sprouting.

I had decided one hot August day it was time to demonstrate my cunning, self-taught skill on those less keen to my wit and savoir-faire. I concocted the perfect elderly gentleman

beard and cap and made my way merrily down the hall and into the study where father kept his collection of adult-themed periodicals and fine assortment of delicious spiced rum he had acquired on his jaunts to Jamaica. Had I been successful in partaking in the sustenance of that which was not for the consumption of a whipper-snapper like myself, I truly would have reached the pinnacle of popularity among my khaki and navy sweater clad chums on the schoolyard. But alas, our eagle-eyed, easily spooked housemaid Consuela quickly called the authorities upon laying eyes on a "wet, naked three-foot elderly man" breaking into Mr. Winthrop's private study. Had my grandfather, H. F. Winthrop--god rest his soul-- still roamed these halls, I might of gotten away with my ingenious plan, but as it stood I was sentenced to a month of tending to Grandmother Winthrop's fastidious collectable beer can collection and, the shame of all that could be shamed, I was no longer allowed bath time. Every Sunday, mid-afternoon as it was, for the next five years, I was lathered and rinsed via garden hose by the chauffeur. A dreadful but character-building spectacle, I must say... Most professionals in the psychology industry conclude that this is the reason for my practically unquenchable acquisition of several thousand hand-wash car vestibules along the western coast.



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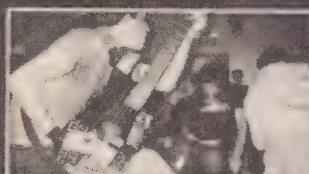
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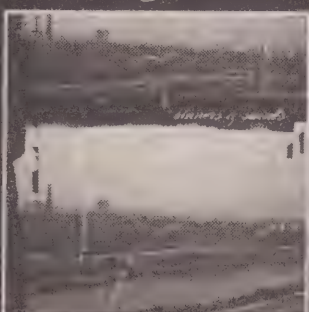
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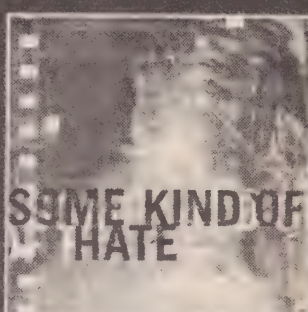
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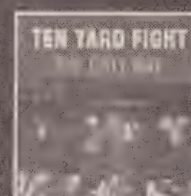
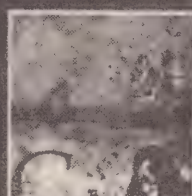
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Me, Myself, and My bathroom

by Michelle A. Tnaserp 11

If I could give birth, I would wish it

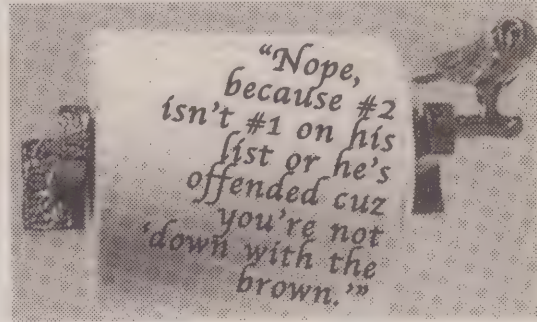
to be in a white porcelain, curvy Euro-style bathtub over-looking Pair-eee (that's Paris, squeezechunks) where I would swish in the water like a frolicking freshman doing a flappy, mermaid dance. "Splash, ker plow, swack, ka-boom" would be the sounds one would hear and then, like winter, out would arrive, a newborn-fresh as mint leaves, yet gooey like putty. During this momentous moment, I would find the chewy nougat of sunshine, roar inaudibly like Chewbaka, reign in the new year with joy. I would play rapid-fire-twist-in with my newfound-self, and thinking back to the '70s, I may pop in a little smokee-jointy-poo while singing yippie-yigh-yah-muthafucka and yet, of course, simultaneously reasoning with the aforementioned circumstances this would seem silly, cathartic, and unreasonable — yet we go on stretching the sentence like the elasticity of my recent-nature-widening, pulling, pushing, must let go we think, but we can't, and we continue to douse sentences with commas — and that's where it all started: A dream, a birth, a pen and a notepad.

Let's face it. A lot can happen in a bathroom.

Coincidentally, I got a few to jog your empty, incandescent cerebral cortexes. Remember "Redrum" written disturbingly in red blood/lipstick across a bathroom mirror in the movie, "The Shining?" Oh golly, I never wanted to look in the mirror again. Then, three hours later, I got over it and delightfully shove Q-tips in random places for kicks, but what does that have to do with anything? Well, OK. How about the famous scene in that one '80s movie with Judge Reinhold who is dreaming up a sex sequence on the can-can, steaming up some hot and sexy thoughts regarding that hot dish in the bikini jumping into the pool and gets caught red-handed (or was it right-handed) twisting the Smirnoff. Don't forget about "Mysterious Ways." Now that's a good song. What? There's a good chance you don't recall this bathroom funyun and probably because you don't even know me, Swizzlecakes. I once was swooped up, feet dangling around with my legs cuffed around my boyfriend's waist side in a rather romantic way (I ate a lot of Fiddle Faddle, which gave the belly a more bloated perspective). As we swooped (yeah, moving down the down low, of that's ... then I creep, anyhow) between the doorway between his bathroom and the bedroom, my legs got stuck. My legs were caught between the structural makeup (do you follow me here,

quakeroats?) and in agony a piercing scream reminiscent of a muted air-horn and a smoke detector paraded out of my vocal box like kung fu: chop chop (the colon there signifies a ration i.e.: 8:2 or 8 to 2, got it Mr. Wizard's World?). In the stuckness, my boyfriend — and we'll leave the fucking has-been's name out of this — decides to pull me through in one quick thrust. He and then WE make it through. His biceps

glisten, while I am uh-hissing. I wanted to kill him.



I should tell you what my bathroom looks like. Actually, never

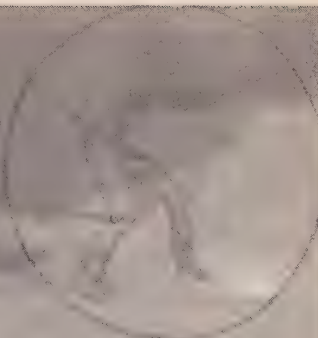
mind. Readers like you could care less. Most of you probably do lackluster do-hickeys like count the new pubic hair sightings of the day sticking whimsically around the toilet ringer. A few of you low-life even make dental floss forts with tee pee. Well, curiosity killed the cunt. Ha Ha. Bet you're left frowning there like you're looking downward struggling to push that last little poop (we'll call him Little Brownie for the sake of we-know-who-we're-talking-about) out and it's uncooperative. If this was Ass-steroids, I mean Asteroids, you'd hit the hyperspace. Little Brownie doesn't wanna pway lookie-loo, does he? Nope, because #2 isn't #1 on his list or he's offended cuz you're not "down with the brown." Let's cut this in half, some of you don't like Brownie being a guy. Make him a girl. Little Brownie's too cute to be a guy, you say? OK, fine. Little Brownie's a girl with long, pretty eyelashes, a little e-z on the eyes, enjoys shopping at Macy's, wears Curve perfume (because she's a worthless whore) and loves to prance around in a thong! There, you happy, you fucks? Where's the sistahs at? People like you and I probably could decorate a bathroom or even my bathroom. We're low common denominators, you know. I bet some of your little fan-fans have pressed up on the very same plastic toilet Saturn-rings as mine, and to you I say, "Nah-Nu-Nah-Nu. This Flush's for you."

Well, this writing was a release of its own kind. Time to go back to that dream. Please, do excuse me and shut the door behind you. I need my privacy. Oh yeah, Pair-eee, sun, mint leaves ...

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THE MIGHTY MIGHTY BOSTONES

PHOTOS BY
MAGGIE ST THOMAS

The Mighty Mighty Bosstones Interview

by Doug Frederickson

You can name the ska bands that have reached the plateau of popularity of The Mighty Mighty Bosstones on one hand. Maybe The Specials, The English Beat and Madness have achieved the same commercial success, but certainly no other American ska band has had the ubiquitous hits such as "The Impression That I Get" or "Rascal King."

The Mighty Mighty Bosstones has been a staple at festival concerts for years and have just finished up the Australian leg of the Vans Warped Tour. We had the chance to speak with its lead singer, Dick Barrett, the other day by phone as he was getting ready to leave Boston and set out on the American leg of the Warped Tour.

SKRATCH: Good afternoon.
BARRETT: Hey mate.

SKRATCH: So you just got back from Australia. How'd the tour go?
BARRETT: Oh, Australia was fuckin' brilliant, way more laid back than the states. There was a lot of the same bands like Pennywise and MxPx on the Vans Warped Tour, plus a couple of really good Aussie bands.

SKRATCH: I take it you had some fun and maybe a few drinks then?
BARRETT: Of course. The boys in the band were all drinking VB, that's Victoria Bitters. I had a go at some Bundaberg rum and coke. Nobody drinks Fosters there.

SKRATCH: Sounds kind of like Germany. Nobody there drinks Becks or St. Pauli Girl.
BARRETT: Exactly. They're just the lowest common denominator.

SKRATCH: Do you have a favorite beer?
BARRETT: I like Miller High Life.

SKRATCH: Since we're talking booze, do you have any favorite bars in Boston?
BARRETT: No, I like 'em all.

SKRATCH: My wife and I were in Boston in October and we went to this incredible little bar.
BARRETT: The World's Smallest Irish Bar. Yeah, that's a great place.

SKRATCH: I was amazed at how close everything was in Boston. It's a great party scene with all the bars within walking distance. We stayed at this really old hotel; the oldest hotel in the U.S.
BARRETT: Let me check my source, (he yells at someone in the background), 'What's the oldest bar in the U.S.?' (From the background), The Omni Parker.

SKRATCH: That's it!
BARRETT: That's my brother, an authority on all things Boston.

SKRATCH: Yeah, it was near the Freedom Walk. Sam Adams and Ben Franklin's graves ... Faneuil Hall.
BARRETT: Ah, Samuel Adams, brewer and patriot. But it's Fahhhnnuuuuelllll Hahhhhhlllll and the Frllleeeedahhhhm Hahhhllll. I gotta teach you guys how to talk.

SKRATCH: Damn. I'll never get that down. I just heard your new album, From a Jacknife to a Swan. It's awesome.
BARRETT: You think so? Thanks very much.

SKRATCH: I really liked the song about Sammy the Bull (crime boss of the Gambino Family, arrested with John Gotti), "Mr. Moran." It could be one of your best songs ever. But those lyrics, "They would motherfuck me in a heartbeat ..." I can't imagine it'll get too much airplay.

BARRETT: Yeah, it was pretty fun. I was shooting for a whole Dr. Seuss thing with that chorus, "Mr. Moran, that's who I am, some call me Sam ..." I just keep coming 'round to it.

SKRATCH: So, of course, you know about the curse of the Bambino (Boston legend of the ghost of Babe Ruth)?

BARRETT: Oh hell yeah, we had a tape of the Red Sox losing on our first album.

SKRATCH: Aren't you afraid of the curse of the Gambinos now?
BARRETT: Oh, fuck. That's right.

SKRATCH: You know Sammy the Bull was in the news the other day.
BARRETT: For what? From something he did in Arizona?

SKRATCH: No. I think he's pissed about some song.

BARRETT: Ah, (in a perfectly gravelly gangster voice), those fuckin' punks! Who do day tink day are? Singin' a song about me, eh? I'll break their fuckin' legs!

SKRATCH: Do you think there will be a single off the album?

BARRETT: Oh hell, I don't care. I mean if there is, great, if not, so what? I just remove myself from that process. They'll come up to me and say here's that new video or single. I'll have to ask them what it is. But I love going on tour and talking on the radio; fucking around with the DJs.

SKRATCH: This is the first album on a much smaller label, Side One Dummy Records. Did they give you a lot more freedom?

BARRETT: You know, not really. We've always been left alone to do what we want. Def Jam Records was OK and Mercury was a great experience. They never got in the way. This is the album that would have come out, no matter what. It's what we needed to do.

SKRATCH: Do you ever get tired of playing your hits like, "The Impression That I Get" or "The Rascal King" live?

BARRETT: No, never. The songs still mean a lot. They're not disposable, and that's something. We're proud of it all.

SKRATCH: You had an early album of covers like "Sweet Emotion" and "Enter Sandman." Do you ever still play that stuff live?

BARRETT: Not so much anymore. I think the last cover we were playing was the KISS tune, "Detroit Rock City." Maybe we'll pick up another.

SKRATCH: Why don't you cover a Dropkick Murphys tune? They're from Boston.

BARRETT: They're fuckin' great! I love their stuff.

SKRATCH: What about Barroom Hero?

BARRETT: (He instantly slips into his best Boston punk growl) Face down in the gutter, won't admit defeat.

SKRATCH: You gotta do that one. So how is the voice?

BARRETT: Hey, it is what it is. It's always been bad, but it's no worse than ever.

SKRATCH: You've been together quite a few years. How does it feel to still be playing with the same lineup?

BARRETT: It's amazing. I wake up and feel like a kid. Here I am playing in a punk band for all these years. It's like a dream. We get to travel all over the world and just play our music.

SKRATCH: So you're ready for another leg of the Warped Tour?

BARRETT: Everybody's happy and healthy. We're ready to go.

SKRATCH: Well, have a great tour and I really do think your latest album is the best thing you've done.

BARRETT: Really? Well thanks a lot mate. We'll see ya.

For a band that has been together since 1986, there is an amazing amount of energy in The Mighty Mighty Bosstones. Their new release is definitely the hardest rocking ska-core they've done. Time doesn't always treat bands kindly, but in this case, it has only served to bring them to what might now be their prime. They sing about gangsters, drink good booze, travel the world and have a great sense of humor. I can't think of a better band to headline the Warped Tour.

"THE SONGS STILL
MEAN A LOT. THEY'RE NOT
DISPOSABLE, AND THAT'S SOME-
THING. WE'RE PROUD OF IT
ALL."



Anti-Flag interview

By Natale Verdone

Anti-Flag is a punk band hailing from Pittsburgh. These guys are keeping the political edge of punk rock alive by layering charged lyrics over fast, melodic tunes. They have a lot on their minds, as you will read in the interview below, and aren't chicken shit about voicing their message of awareness and activism, whether it be on a punk rock record, or an e-mail interview.

Anti-Flag consist of Justin Sane on vocals and guitar, Chris on Guitar, #2 on bass, and Pat Thetic on drums. These four rockers have been together since 1994 and have released three full-length albums, the most recent being Underground Network, which was put out on Fat Wreck Chords. They have toured the U.S. 13 times, and say they are ready to do it again this summer on the Warped Tour. Recently, I sent out an e-mail interview to find out what these four guys thought of America, punk rock and the future of Anti-Flag.

SKRATCH: What's the punk scene like in Pittsburgh, where Anti-Flag started?

ANTI-FLAG: The punk scene in Pittsburgh is quite unique. Unlike some punk communities where bands and people come and go, many Pittsburgh bands and people have been around for years. This gives our scene a stability that helps bands, show venues and activist co-ops to be successful and grow. One really special aspect of Pittsburgh's

scene

is a nonprofit co-op venue (sort of like Gilman St. in Berkeley) called the Mr. Roboto Project that puts on independent shows and gives younger bands an opportunity to play without losing money all the time.

SKRATCH: How did Anti-Flag come together as a band?

ANTI-FLAG: Justin and Pat founded Anti-Flag in our early teens. We (Justin and Pat) didn't fit into the party scene because we didn't drink and had no interest getting fucked up on drugs. Partly out of love for playing music, and partly as a result of needing something to do, we would play music on Friday and Saturday nights (Justin on guitar and Pat on drums). Eventually, we could play well enough to write songs so we decided to start a band. We went through a number of bass

players until Chris and #2 came along. Chris and #2 had similar ideas about music and life so they were the perfect people to round out Anti-Flag's lineup. We've been going strong ever since.

SKRATCH: What bands influenced your sound?

ANTI-FLAG: When we were starting out (about 10 years ago), we were influenced by bands like the Clash, Generation X, the Avengers, The Gun Club, X, The UK Subs, The Exploited, Big Black and Sonic Youth. Now there are so many great new bands who we've played with and have gone to see and that influence us in new directions. We are usually influenced the most by who ever we've been on tour with most recently. Currently, that would be Strike Anywhere, Good Riddance, Bouncing Souls, Thrice, Pipedown, The Code, Thought Riot, Virus Nine.

SKRATCH: How would you define Anti-Flag's political message?

ANTI-FLAG: Our main message on the "A-F RECORDS MOBILIZE FOR PEACE TOUR," was that the United States, and all countries should be trying to work for a world free of standing armies. We believe the United Nations should make it illegal for any country to house a military, or manufacture or export weapons. Instead of working towards these lofty goals, the U.S. is the largest producer and exporter of weaponry around the world. This does not benefit the people of the U.S., it only benefits the corporate state; those profiting from the production and sales of weapons. When the president refers to "foreign aid" the U.S. gives out to other nations, he is usually referring to military weaponry and training, not humanitarian aid. The U.S. was the only country who refused to sign on to an international ban on landmines, and now the Bush administration wants to break nuclear weapon treaties it signed with Russia. We do not see this as leadership. WE BRING THESE ISSUES UP NOT BECAUSE WE HATE AMERICA, BUT BECAUSE WE CARE ABOUT AMERICA AND THE WORLD, AND WE BELIEVE THAT THOSE IN POWER ARE NOT ACTING IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE OR THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD. Our basic message is to respect all people no matter what country they come from, and no matter their economic status. That people are more important than profit. If someone has a different point of view it doesn't mean they are wrong, or vice versa. That people can coexist peacefully if they are willing to respect and be tolerant of each other. To remember that in the end we are human beings.

SKRATCH: Do you think that punk rock audiences care anymore about politics?

ANTI-FLAG: We just got back from a tour where we encountered about 25,000 people who did,

We feel that now more than ever (in our post Sept. 11 world) people are looking for alternatives to the supposed "leadership" they are seeing from those in a position of power such as George Bush and Ariel Sharon — two people who feel as if aggression and violence are the only means to solving the world's problems. Recent world events appear to be pulling people who didn't care about politics into the political arena. On our last tour, some people seemed to turn up at shows because they were looking for something other than the bullshit they were hearing and continue to hear on mainstream media. What is amazing to us about punk rock is where else are "nonprofitable" social and political topics being discussed? Outside of alternative media, the punk community is one of the only arenas tackling certain issues.

SKRATCH: Do you have any stories when you've experienced when fans did, or didn't, give a shit about your message?

ANTI-FLAG: Sure, there are sometimes dissenters at shows and some are more vocal than others. However, we are not going to concern our-

selves with someone who is unwilling to at least hear us out or try to understand our message. After all, it isn't our goal to tell everyone we are right and they are wrong. We are just trying to present an idea and asking people to think about it, to consider it. We are willing to respect them if they do not agree, but we hope they will have enough respect for our viewpoint to let us have our say. Many people don't realize we are NOT saving we have all the answers. We are saying, 'Here is an issue that is fucked up. Let's not just accept it, let's talk, let's debate, let's not hide from it. We need to search out new ideas and make a positive change.'

SKRATCH: Have you guys ever felt a negative backlash because of your politics?

ANTI-FLAG: We were just told that we are no longer welcome to shop in a store in our town because of our ideas. Yeah, we get backlash sometimes.

SKRATCH: What pisses you off most about America?

ANTI-FLAG: We are not pissed off by America, we are angered by the policies of a government that is controlled by those who contribute the most money to political campaigns.

ANTI-FLAG

ANTI-FLAG

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We are pissed off at the policies this government creates for the benefit of those with the most money. We are pissed that the government does not represent the people of the U.S. For example, the energy policy of the U.S. government was practically written by Enron, a company that stole millions of dollars from the American people.

SKRATCH: What makes you glad (if anything) to be an American?

ANTI-FLAG: We are thankful for the people who came before us who made it possible for us to speak our minds. And we are thankful for the people in this country who care about us and have enriched our lives. We are thankful for a standard of living that is better than in many places in the world. Unfortunately, contrary to popular myth, it is not the BEST in the world — although considering the fact that there is more wealth in the U.S., it should be and the fact that it is not is inexcusable! We have people who live in the streets, we do not have health care for all, and the reality is that there is so much wealth in this nation that those things should not be happening. Everyone always goes on about what a success capitalism is, but when we see such problems, we realize what a myth that it

is. Furthermore, we have educated ourselves about how the global economy works, so we understand that we enjoy a high standard of living in this country as a result of U.S. policy that exploits the world's poor. We do not believe it is fair to achieve a high standard of living off the backs of the world's poor. That said, you won't find us shopping at Wal-Mart or other chains whose goal it is to erode workers rights away, or smash unions. And we do our best not to purchase goods made in Third World sweat shops, even if it means we have to do without something or we have to pay more for it because it was produced in a factory in the U.S. where workers are paid a living wage. There is much to be proud of in America, and there is much that needs to be improved.

SKRATCH: What pisses you off about punk rock?

ANTI-FLAG: The things that piss us off about punk rock are also the things that we feel make punk amazing, like questioning everything. There are many days when we are tired of explaining our actions ... however, we would be really disappointed with people if they just accepted everything we said and didn't question it.

SKRATCH: What do you see Anti-Flag doing in 10 years?

ANTI-FLAG: Hopefully continuing to comment on our society and our lives. To continue our struggle to make the world a better place. We may not be able to tour as much because touring is very difficult for us (physically it beats us up!), but we hope we will still be communicating and expressing our ideas by recording and talking to people.

SKRATCH: What bands do you guys like to tour with?

ANTI-FLAG: We like to tour with bands with open minds. We are not so much concerned with the styles of music as long as they are quality people.

SKRATCH: Are you ready to play another Warped Tour?

ANTI-FLAG: We think so! But the days are long and it is really fucking hot! However we are excited to meet new people, and see some great bands.

SKRATCH: Did I forget to ask you guys anything? Any last words?

ANTI-FLAG: We have a record label, A-F Records. We put out bands whose music we think really rocks and have a cool message. We released an Anti-Flag full-length titled, Mobilize, on A-F Records in February 2002. Justine Sane (Anti-Flag's lead singer/guitarist) released a solo record titled, Life, Love, and the Pursuit of Justice on A-F Records in April that is really cool. We have a split CD with the Bouncing Souls scheduled to come out on BYO Records in September. After Warped Tour, the tentative plan is to do some touring (probably with Bouncing Souls) and then work on the new record that will come out in early 2003. Also, we STRONGLY endorse alternative media in the form of: www.democracynow.org and www.indymedia.org. Please feel free to write to us or check out our Web site.

AF

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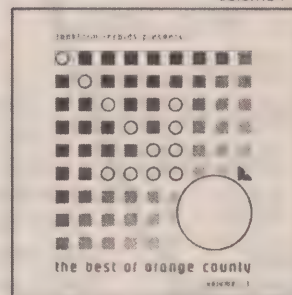
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No Use For A Name

By Natale Verdone

"That's kind of weird these days with punk rock, to hear something and say 'I've never heard anyone write a song about that before.' It's refreshing, so I'm always looking for that kind of stuff."



Since 1987, No Use For A Name has survived flaky band members, hectic touring schedules and racist skin-heads, to become one of Fat Wreck Chords' most viable bands. With eight full-length albums under their belt, along with numerous tours across the U.S., Europe, Australia and Canada, these four musicians—Tony Sly on vocals and guitar, Matt Riddle on bass, Dave Nassie on lead guitar, and Rory Koff on drums—are damn dedicated to the business of making music.

I recently chatted it up with Tony Sly on the past, present, and future of No Use For A Name while holding a tape recorder to the speaker of my phone. Fortunately the batteries didn't die, and Tony was ready to share his deepest, darkest secrets to the scores of SKRATCH readers waiting breathlessly for the dirt. Here's what we came up with.

SKRATCH: So, what's new with No Use For A Name?

TONY SLY: We just finished recording a record. It's going to be out June 18. The name of it is *Hard Rock Bottom*, and it's 13 new songs. We also just finished a soundtrack for a small, independent movie that we're actually in for about 20 minutes.

SKRATCH: Are you happy with your new album, *Hard Rock Bottom*?

TONY SLY: Oh yeah, we're definitely stoked on this one. It's our

favorite, and we're not just saying that because it's new. Because we didn't feel that way about our last two records. I think this one is one that I can put on and listen to repeatedly and don't burn out on—not yet anyway. I probably will soon. It's really nice to have a fresh sound and I think we changed our sound a little bit. We're just all happy with the way it turned out.

SKRATCH: How has your sound changed since the very beginning?

TONY SLY: Well, right now, on this new one, it's a bit more melodic. The vocal melodies are probably better. It's a little more powerful, a little more aggressive. I think the funny thing is when we started off, we were really aggressive and then, on our last album, we went into a lot lighter of a sound. Now it seems like we're back to the aggressive. So, it's come a long way. It's come full circle.

SKRATCH: How have you guys managed to keep the band together since 1987, not counting the guitar players? You've had eight guitar players, is that right?

TONY SLY: Yeah, yeah pretty much, something like that. Because of that, we've barely been able to keep it together. Fortunately, we have the two founding members of the band, which is myself and Rory the drummer. So, at this point we're used to changing members. It's something that comes every one or two records. We're like, 'Oh here it goes again.' It's like someone's quitting, or someone's, you know, is being an asshole. And, so we change up quite a bit, but I think the lineup we have now is the permanent one.

SKRATCH: Why do you say that?

TONY SLY: Because we get along so good, and we tour more. And that should mean that we have more time to get along worse, but we don't. It's just a weird new thing that just came about when Dave joined the band. I'm not saying that anyone who was in the band before was a jerk, or anything, it's just a combination—the mix of people somehow works better than it has before.

SKRATCH: You guys are from Sunnyvale, Calif., right?

TONY SLY: Originally, yeah.

SKRATCH: Where did you play shows when you first started? San Francisco, San Jose?

TONY SLY: Mainly San Francisco and Berkeley, and a little bit of shows in San Jose. The scene was real small in San Jose back then, it was hard to get all-ages shows, but San Francisco always had clubs, and Berkeley had clubs, that would take us in.

SKRATCH: What venues would you play?

TONY SLY: Gilman Street. I mean it seems like when we started off, we would play there at least once a month. The Berkeley Square, of course The Stone in San Francisco. The Omni, a few of those rock clubs where you had to sell tickets to play the show. So we did that whole thing. We played a ton of places. There was always good places to play in Santa Cruz, too. That's basically what we did for the first five years of our existence, we'd just play local shows.

SKRATCH: Who did you play shows with?

TONY SLY: You know, we used to luck out with shows; we used to get really good ones. We'd play with the bigger punk bands coming through, like the Exploited, or Dag Nasty. We played with MDC several times. God, there's so many.

SKRATCH: A lot of readers who will be seeing this interview weren't around back then, what was the scene like?

TONY SLY: It was a lot different, it was definitely more of a, for Gilman Street, more of a community scene. It was all about keeping the club open, being able to showcase these great punk bands that, otherwise, wouldn't be able to play in front of anybody. So it was really different. The Gilman Street thing was a great thing. It was a great thing for bands like us. Back then, also, there was a lot of over-21

shows. A lot of those Stone and Omni shows in San Francisco were over-21 and it was sort of difficult to get all-ages shows up there.

There was still big rock clubs, you know late-80s, that were still bringing in these rock bands. We didn't fit. We didn't fit in. We fit in more playing someone's backyard at a party. And then again, it was like, the real punk shows. If you got to play with The Adolescents, or The Dead

Kennedys, which we did, it would be like and it wasn't the bands fault extremely violent. There was a big skinhead scene back then. I just remember several times seeing people being beat senseless from skinheads.

SKRATCH: You don't see that as much now.

TONY SLY: You know what, you don't see that at all. You really don't. When I go see an older punk band play, you see some of those people come out, but I don't think it's how it used to be. I don't think they have the numbers, and I just don't think it's as popular as it used to be to be a skinhead.

SKRATCH: They're all hiding out.

TONY SLY: Yeah (laughs).

SKRATCH: Your sound has been described as "melodic punk." How do you think that sound emerged over the years from original punk roots?

TONY SLY: Well, I don't want to credit it to one band, but I think Bad Religion changed that part of punk rock. Before that, it was very aggressive and there was a sort of melodic thing. There was a Southern-California-style, like the Adolescents or

DI, or Social Distortion, that wasn't as aggressive as some of the hardcore bands before. When Bad Religion came around, all of the sudden you've got three-part harmonies in a song, and I don't think anybody did that before. I think a lot of bands are doing that these days, and I think it all hails from that, you know?

SKRATCH: So, who do you listen to now? What bands are you into?

TONY SLY: God, you know I listen to a lot of bands. I try to keep up with a lot of the new stuff that's coming out. I don't necessarily listen to a lot of punk rock. I do like Bad Religion's new records, and a few of the newer punk bands like Anti-Flag. Right now, I'm not really listening to anything. I'm going out and buying old records, and listening to that. I've been buying old Kiss records. I've been going for the nostalgia thing because I think, music right now, as far as good records coming out, is kind of at an all-time low. It's really drab the stuff that's coming out.

SKRATCH: You should check out San Francisco right now. It's dead.

TONY SLY: Is it really?

SKRATCH: Kind of, yeah.

TONY SLY: I was up there for two months in January and February recording a record, and we did go to some shows, but you're right, it wasn't totally crazy. I saw Bad Religion at the Bottom of the Hill and it was kind of 'whatever.' It wasn't the band the band played great but it just seemed kind of blah. It will be OK. San Francisco always seems to survive all this crap.

SKRATCH: Totally. Anyway, as a songwriter, what inspires you to write your songs?

TONY SLY: Musically, I think just listening to as much music as I can, and taking in as much information as I can, whether it be books or movies, or just art, in any sort of form or shape. I try to flood my mind with that stuff so that I can come out and write songs. That helps a lot musically and lyrically. But, lyrically, it's really just what gets my goat. It's not really a thing that I think about too much. Basically it's like a diary. But, then again, it's also about experiences. I do try to look for new things to write about because I think it's cool when someone comes out with something that is groundbreaking. That's kind of weird these days with punk rock, to hear something and say 'I've never heard anyone write a song about that before.' It's refreshing, so I'm always looking for that kind of stuff.

SKRATCH: Are you all full-time musicians, or do you have separate lives?

TONY SLY: Now we are. We don't have separate jobs, this is all we do. We're always a paycheck away from going back and working. But, as long as

we keep touring and keep putting out records, I think we'll be fine.

SKRATCH: Besides the Warped Tour that's coming up, what other tours do you have planned?

TONY SLY: I think we're going to Europe to do some festivals in late August or September, and probably do a Europe tour in the fall.

SKRATCH: Did you always want to be a frontman in a band?

TONY SLY: Actually, no. I was kind of forced into it. I wasn't the singer for this band until 1990 or 1991. I would always sing backups, but I just basically wanted to be a guitar player. After one of our singers we had like three singers and they all quit I was like, 'You know, forget a good voice, we need someone who's going to be in the band.' And so, I was that person and I basically learned how to sing being in the band. I mean, in some of the old stuff, my vocals are pretty bad. Over the years I kinda learned how to sing a little bit.

SKRATCH: Did you take lessons?

TONY SLY: Like one semester at a community college. I don't know if it helped. I think maybe it did, I don't know.

SKRATCH: Where do you see NUFAN in another 15 years?

TONY SLY: I don't think we'll exist together as a band (laughs). I really don't want to be this older guy playing our old songs. If we're not making good records, and we're kind of over it and over-the-hill, I don't see the point in coming out and playing shows to these people who've already seen us play a million times and seen us play these songs a million times, or just 45-year-old men playing to 15-year-olds. I don't think it's cool. But, as long as we keep making good records, we'll still be around. We just need to know when to stop.

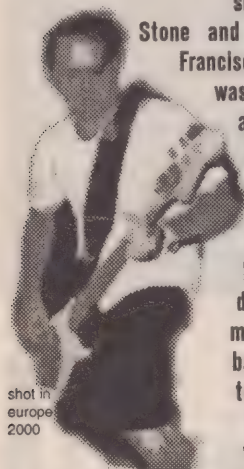
SKRATCH: Is there anything amazing that I forgot to ask you? Anything you want to add?

TONY SLY: No, I think that's it.

SKRATCH: No goofy questions this time

TONY SLY: That's OK, goofy questions are kind of hard to answer sometimes.

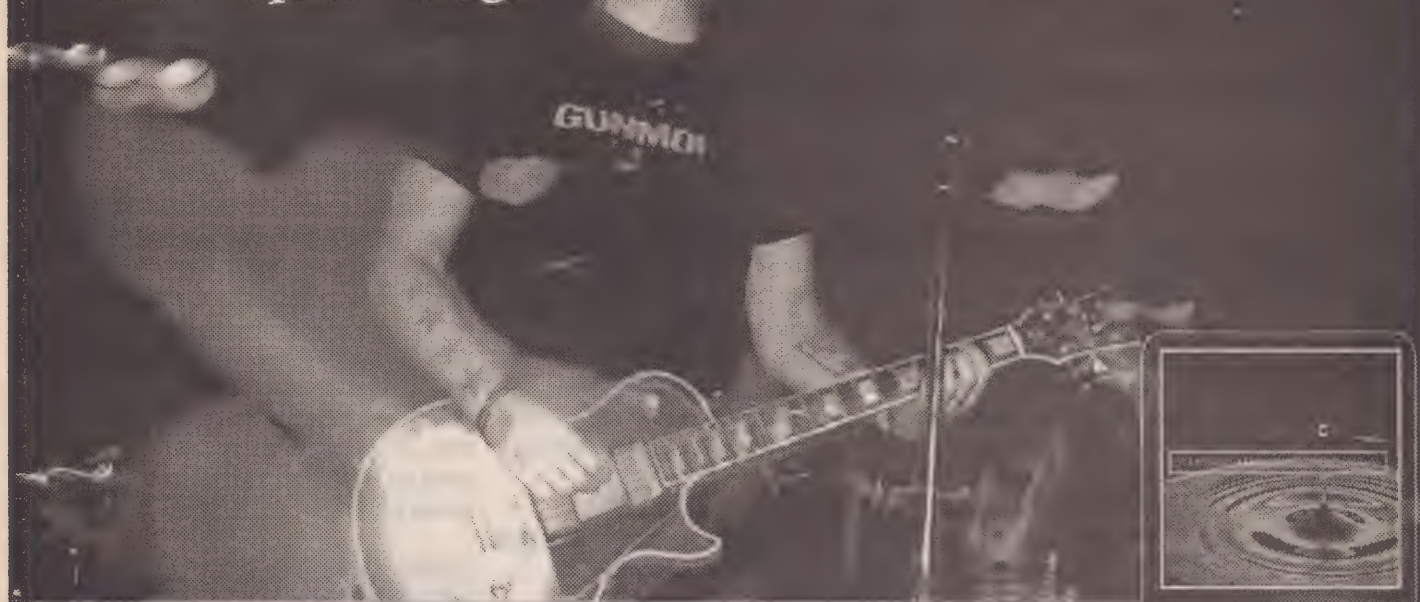
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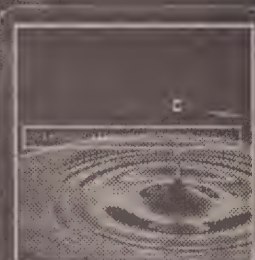
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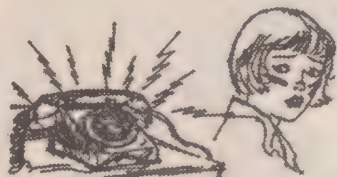
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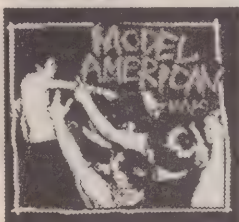
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MXPX

MxPx Interview by Doug Frederickson

Photo by: Nan Engel

One of the most popular skate/punk bands in recent years is Tooth and Nail Records' MxPx. Their seminal album, *Quietly Going the Way of the Buffalo*, was a huge critical and commercial success. Much of the same energy and creativity is present in their latest CD, *The Ever Passing Moment*. We got the chance to speak with bassist Mike Herrera recently about the band's upcoming appearance on the Warped Tour.

SKRATCH: What does the acronym MxPx stand for?

HERRERA: Our original name Magnified Plaid. It's kind of a long story, but it had to do with a loud shirt, back in the days when everyone in the Pacific Northwest was

wearing plaid shirts.

The print on the shirt, was large plaid blocks. Fortunately, Yuri (drummer) was creative in his poster design work and decided to abbreviate our name and use "x" as periods. That just stuck

with people so we stuck with it as well.

SKRATCH: I've always associated you guys with the skating scene. Do you still ride?

HERRERA: I do and Yuri gets out now and then. Tom (guitarist) tries and there is humor in that. I usually skate a lot more when we're touring on the Van's Warped Tour cause being around all the pro skaters everyday is inspiring.

SKRATCH: Are you sponsored by a skateboard brand?

HERRERA: Actually, the guys at Powell have been great at keeping me supplied with great stuff. We just had them manufacture

SKRATCH: Do you ever show up at skate parks just to skate or hang out?

HERRERA: We have dropped in to a couple of places while on tour. Burnside in Portland is great and there's a local skate park in our home town. I've skated Skatestreet in Ventura, Calif., the park in

Albuquerque, N.M., and many others, especially in Washington State where I live.

SKRATCH: Several years ago, I saw you perform an incredible show inside a tiny

independent record store in Riverside. Though there were only about a hundred people there, you played your hearts out. What are some of the smallest gigs you've ever played?

HERRERA: That show was one of the most memorable. The fun thing was our manager was telling the record company, 'Are you sure the store owner is OK with this? We are gonna have a lot of fans show up,' and they said, 'Oh he does this all the time.' Well, it was amazing. Kids were diving off the record racks. The label had to pay for the damage and during our set, they were all freaking. We were not invited back and word spread quickly. That was the best of the bunch.

Photo by: Ashley D



One more recent criticism came from someone who thought we were "evil" for watching "The Simpsons."

Photo by: Ashley D

SKRATCH:

You haven't made any secrets about your relationship with God. Do you ever catch flak from fundamentalists about Tom and Mike's tattoos?

HERRERA: I am glad you brought this up. We get our fair share from both sides. We are too "this" or not enough of "that." One more recent criticism came from someone who thought we were "evil" for watching "The Simpsons." Some have said that we need to step up and preach our faith, but MxPx has never been about that. I am a songwriter and I write from my heart and my experiences. Because I have faith, it comes out in my songs. If a fan in New York or London finds a connection with that, great. For some reason, some like to label bands. I guess it is easier for them. Those that choose to look past the label and listen to our songs are the people we do this for anyway. These people

are being honest with themselves instead of just listening to what Mr. DJ tells them to. And I think this goes beyond our band and even our style of music. There's a lot of great bands out there that never make it 'cause they're not cool enough or rebellious enough or preachy enough, for that matter.

Everyone preaches from time to time, especially in the music business. You just have to decide what your message is going to be and hope that it's one that will last.

SKRATCH: Although much of your music is similar and arguably better than most of the pop/punk super groups today like Green Day and Blink 182, you still have only really had one airplay hit, "Chick Magnet," back in '96. Do you think it's harder for a punk group with a positive message to be successful in the music industry?

HERRERA: Yes, I do. Hopefully that will change. I know that there are some bands coming up that share some of our same feelings. My hope is that music fans will recognize the need for positive music. And it's not a faith thing. Many people that listen to us may not believe the same, but I think we're all in one form or another looking for

that something, the answer to the question, like our song "Tomorrow's Another Day." There's always room for change.

SKRATCH: On your first national tour, you shared the stage with The Sex Pistols at Seattle's Bumbershoot Festival. Did you meet them?

HERRERA: No, but we saw them. I wanted to meet them, but I probably would have been too scared to talk to them anyway

SKRATCH: What do you think about the various directions punk rock has gone in recent years, such as hardcore, emo, goth, etc.?

HERRERA: Well, I like a lot of different types of music, so

I'm not opposed to songwriters and musicians doing things differently. It's always a good thing even if it's not yours or my cup of tea.

SKRATCH: I assume you guys don't destroy hotel rooms or throw up backstage. Would you consider yourself a "straightedge" band?

HERRERA: Sez who? No, we're not straightedge. What are the rules this week?

SKRATCH: Have you taken a lot of crap about sobriety from other bands?

HERRERA: Only from a really drunk guy. But then again, they complain about it a lot. I usually punch them in the face and they go to sleep. But seriously, I don't think there's a problem with responsible drinking, which of course could mean a lot of things. Moderation is one of the

big keys in this life, at least this society.

SKRATCH: With all that's going on in the Middle East right now, it is a big and scary world. Do you feel "One Step Closer To Life?"

HERRERA: Well, life could get a lot more real in ways we never could have imagined. Sometimes it seems like we live in a dream world. We fall asleep and wake up in another place, touring around the country and the world, playing music. But as history has taught us, anything is possible. Especially when wealth, power and cultural prosperity is at stake.

Photo by: Ashley D



Sez who? No, we're not straightedge. What are the rules this week?

SKRATCH:

The Green Party's credo is "Think Globally, Act Locally." Do you believe your band has had an affect on musicians and fans in the Bremerton area?

HERRERA: Everything started here in Bremerton, Wash. So yes, we've had an affect on the area and it's also had an affect on us.

SKRATCH: Who are your favorite musicians to tour with?

HERRERA: The Descendants. We love all those guys as musicians and just as much as people. There are tons more bands out there that over the years we've come to know but it's a long list so I'll leave it at that.

SKRATCH: Do you have any favorite authors?

HERRERA: C. S. Lewis, John Grisham, anyone with a compelling story and the guts to really write it.

SKRATCH: If "The Time Machine" was real, is there a place and time you would like to place yourselves for a day?

HERRERA: Oh I've thought about this a lot. I'd have to say somewhere in the future of my life to see how it all panned out, or back in time in Vegas at the sports book. I'd bet it all and win. You know, like in "Back to the Future II."

SKRATCH: Did the KKK really take your baby away?

HERRERA: No. The skins would

come to the earlier shows, but luckily most of em' got run out of town or went into hiding.

SKRATCH: The Ever Passing Moment is an incredible album. Are you working on a follow-up?

HERRERA: We've got a new 10 year anniversary comp album coming out on May 21 with a couple new songs. We are also working on a new full-length but we haven't recorded that yet.

SKRATCH: What's the worst meal you guys have ever shared on tour?

HERRERA: Besides starving in Europe our first and second time there, I'd say our first tour in '95 when we all ate at Taco Cabaña in Austin, Texas. Everyone got food poisoning and were puking our guts out. We didn't know what to do cause it was like the black plague. No one was safe. We're feeling much better now.

SKRATCH: Is "Lifetime Enlightenment" really just "Smoke On The Water" rehashed?

HERRERA: Well, the bridge of it is. It was a joke but it's actually the best part of the song.

SKRATCH: Do you guys snowboard?

HERRERA: I used to snowboard all the time. Now I go a couple times a year when I can get up to it. I love it though

SKRATCH: Is there anything you'd like to add?

HERRERA: Thank you very much for the interview.

SKRATCH: Well, good luck on the Warped Tour and stay the hell away from Taco Cabana.



Photo by: Nan Engel

Photo by: Ashley D

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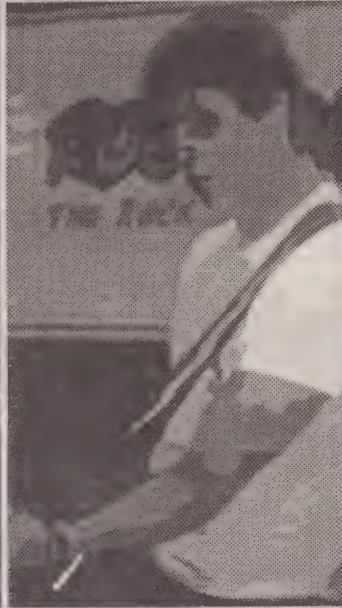


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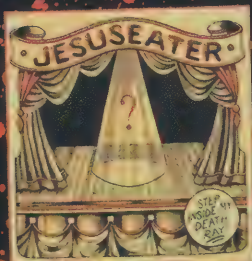
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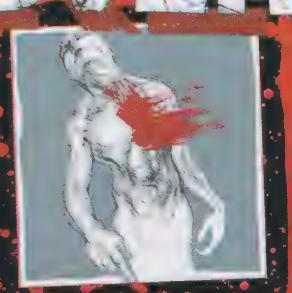
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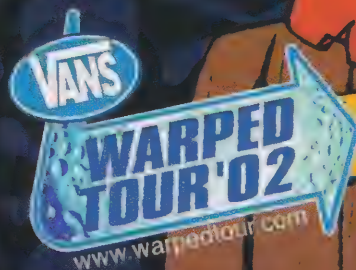
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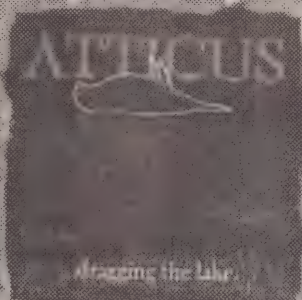
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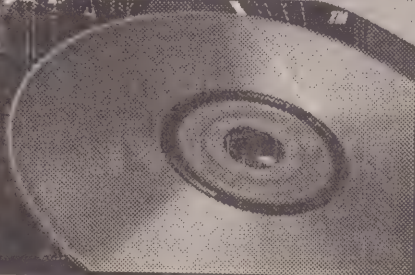


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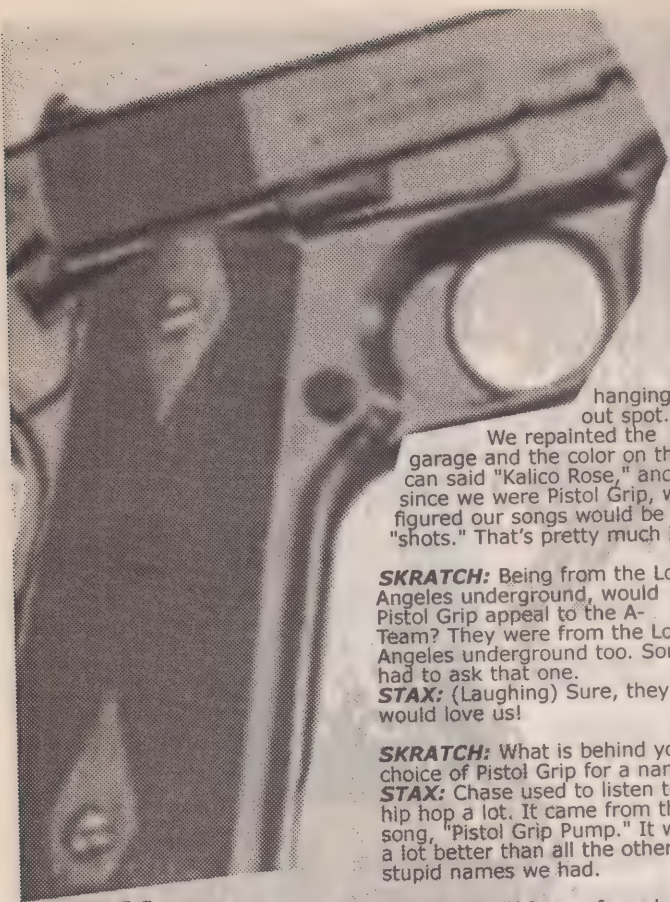
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PISTOLGRIP

Pistol Grip By: Mark A. Whitaker



hanging out spot. We repainted the garage and the color on the can said "Kalico Rose," and since we were Pistol Grip, we figured our songs would be "shots." That's pretty much it.

SKRATCH: Being from the Los Angeles underground, would Pistol Grip appeal to the A-Team? They were from the Los Angeles underground too. Sorry had to ask that one.

STAX: (Laughing) Sure, they would love us!

SKRATCH: What is behind your choice of Pistol Grip for a name?

STAX: Chase used to listen to hip hop a lot. It came from the song, "Pistol Grip Pump." It was a lot better than all the other stupid names we had.

SKRATCH: Did any of you have any musical influences growing up?

STAX: My first punk record was Bad Religion, Suffer or No Control. I also like the Misfits, the Clash.

Having seen Pistol Grip perform a few times before, I was pretty excited about having the chance to finally talk to them. I had wanted to talk to them after they played a show in Ventura but they left early so I missed them. Things were destined to change because now not only did I get the chance to say 'thanks for a good show at the Ventura Theater,' but I would get the chance to do a formal interview with them. In talking with Stax, the singer gave me an exclusive on the trials and tribulations of the band's first U.S. tour.

SKRATCH: So how did Pistol Grip come about?

STAX: In high school, Chase started it, then we brought Hollywood into it. We then changed our bass player and drummer a few times.

SKRATCH: You guys have been together since 1997? Do you have any crazy tour stories?

STAX: Well, after our first U.S. tour, we are now down to a four-piece band. Chase left the band in St. Louis. This was our "Transmission Tour 2002." Our van broke down several times. After Sacramento, our gear shaft broke and we had to spend the night at the mechanics shop instead of driving home.

SKRATCH: Your CD, The Shots from the Kalico Rose, is an interesting name? What's the background on the title?

STAX: We used to practice at "the Kalico Rose," which was Chase's garage. It was our practice spot and our drinking and

Hollywood was into Iggy Pop, Johnny Thunders, Stiff Little Fingers.

SKRATCH: That brings us to me next question; what is your favorite Clash song? I personally like "I Fought the Law."

"London's Burning" is really good too.

STAX: "Death or Glory."

SKRATCH: I have noticed some of your songs have a political message behind them. Where do you draw influence for your lyrics?

STAX: Chase writes all the political stuff, I write about the religion and life experiences.

SKRATCH: What is the PMRC?

STAX: It has to do with explicit lyrics on songs. Chase wrote it about free speech.

SKRATCH: How are Tipper

Gore and Barbara Wyatt involved with the PMRC?

STAX: Barbara Wyatt and Tipper Gore formed and ran the PMRC.

SKRATCH: I take it they aren't big Pistol Grip fans?

STAX: I wouldn't assume they would be. Like they give a shit.

SKRATCH: Can you describe a typical Pistol Grip show? Is there a typical Pistol Grip show or are they all a different adventure in punk rock enlightenment?

STAX: In Southern California, the shows are good. Friends and other people shouting out lyrics,



SKRATCH: What dates are you playing on the Warped Tour?

STAX: First two weeks, Boise through Midwest, ending in San Diego.

SKRATCH: Do you have any bands that you are looking forward to playing with at the Warped Tour?

STAX: Looking forward to talking with Bad Religion, NOFX and Flogging Molly.

SKRATCH: What are your likes and dislikes about Warped Tour?

STAX: Pretty rough having to drive right after the show to load in at 9 a.m.

SKRATCH: If you could change anything about the Warped Tour, what would it be?

STAX: If it were my Warped Tour, I would get rid of bands like Good Charlotte and MxPx.

SKRATCH: What plans do you have after Warped Tour? Do you have any other tours scheduled?

STAX: In the making, doing a tour with Oxymoron, then ending in New Jersey for Holidays in the Sun. Then it's off to Europe.

SKRATCH: So have you guys played Holidays in the Sun before?

STAX: Yeah, last year we were the first band, it was awesome.

SKRATCH: Where can we get updates about upcoming shows and future tours?

STAX: Pistolgrip.net and BYOrecords.com, they are more current than we are. We lag.

SKRATCH: Do you have any final thoughts or thanks?

STAX: No, not really, just hope we can rock as a four piece.

"A lot of energy, be there rocking hopefully a lot tighter. We'll always be upbeat onstage."

fights. Everywhere else, people standing around with their arms crossed.

SKRATCH: How is your tour with the Business going? Those guys are amazing, although I have yet to see them play live.

STAX: It was good, the Business are unbelievable. The supporting bands were really cool. One Man Army was awesome. It was really good, shows were cool, first U.S. tour rocked.

SKRATCH: Speaking of tours, you are doing a few dates on the Warped Tour. What's in store for fans at the Warped Tour that have never been to a Pistol Grip show?

STAX: A lot of energy, be there rocking hopefully a lot tighter. We'll always be upbeat onstage.



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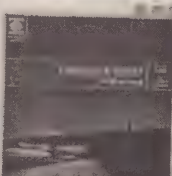
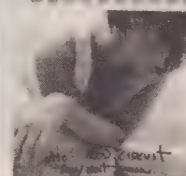
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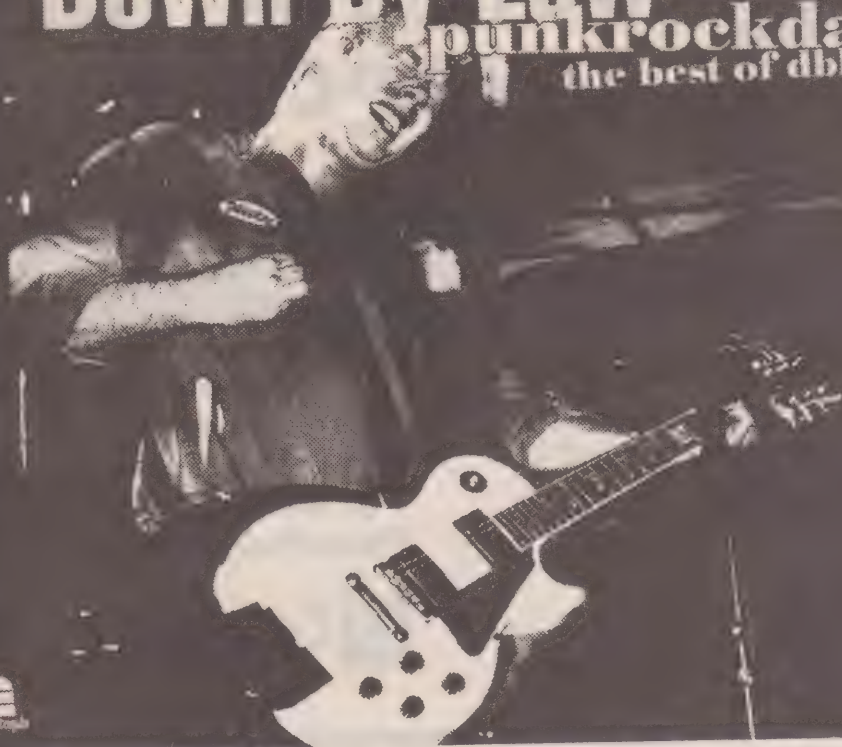
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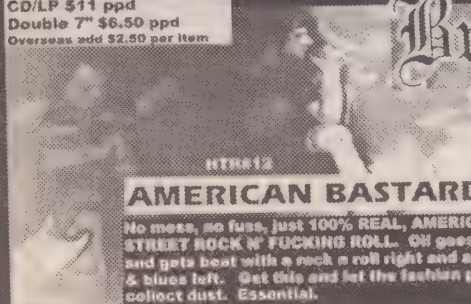
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Ultimate fake book

Ultimate Fakebook
By: Mark Whittaker

It takes all kinds to fully form a great band. Here though, Manhattan, KS' own Ultimate Fakebook are three men destined to become the new wave of uber rock pop that you would pay much ductets for down at the local hall or stadium even. Here, it takes just three guys to come together and formulate a plan to develop a way to envelop us with hooky riffs, chunky-ass bombast but maintaining that simplistic element so many bands of their ilk deem immobile: sugar blessed harmony! The scale of most tunes on their newest release, *Open Up and Say Awesome*, could easily fill the echo-chilled rafters of your local arena to such an extent that the mayor himself would have to put a budget in for cotton candy all around. Not that Ultimate Fakebook is such an excursion into the dungeon of "boy band" pop or even the sell-out, movie soundtrack fare of radio dulled guitar "punk" which pisses us all

off when they say that bands like this helped influence them. Why not go straight for the throat and get these guys to shine in the limelight they so deserve and are grasping for. It'll be good to see them on the Warped Tour this time around, not only because they rock and are needed, but because it'll broaden the audience to the stinky teen market who normally would flock to the anger filled pool of other kids who think all bands suck except those who sing vengeful tunes about bands and the world sucking. The world doesn't suck. It's just...complicated. So for now, ease into the hot coolness of bands such as this and prepare for the next wave. Bill McShane (guitar, vocals) talked to me one night and let us all in on the obvious - what he/they want and what he/they are all about.

SKRATCH: FIRST OFF, WHAT'S WITH THE NAME?
BILL: There are these books called fakebooks that musician's use to "fake" songs. We liked it because it was long and weird and at the time we formed there were all those grunge bands with one-word names.

SKRATCH: YOU'RE BROAD.
SOUND IS PRETTY BROAD.
WHERE THE HECK WOULD YOU SHELVES "OPEN UP AND SAY AWESOME"?
BILL: I would stick it in the "U"s, in the Rock/Pop isle.

SKRATCH: YOU MENTIONED THAT YOU WERE DOWN WITH BEING COMMERCIAL. HOW FAR DO YOU WANNA TAKE THIS?
BILL: Yeah, when I said that, what I meant was that we write music that is for everyone, it's pop. We feel like it's silly for rock bands to act like what they do is high art. To us it's about having fun and getting a group of people to sing along with you. We are inspired by bands like The Beach Boys and The Beatles, bands that made great pop music and were still amazing artists. We feel like the challenge is to make pop music that isn't void of personality and creativity like most of the stuff on the radio today.

SKRATCH: WHAT'S THERE TO DO IN MANHATTAN, KANSAS OTHER THAN START A ROCKIN' BAND?
BILL: It's a college town, so pretty much the same things you do in every other college town I suppose, like partying and skipping classes. But we would have heeded our rock calling no matter where we were.

Rolling Stone calling us or anything

SKRATCH:

WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO EVEN START ULTIMATE FAKEBOOK?

BILL: All of us always planned on being rock musicians from very early ages, so we always knew we would rock in some way. The current UFB was started because Nick and me wanted to play pop songs.

SKRATCH: WHAT WERE YOU GUYS DOING BEFORE?

BILL: Well in Manhattan, all of us did a little time at Kansas State, but dropped out pretty soon.

SKRATCH: WHAT WERE YOUR EARLY INFLUENCES?

BILL: Well I grew up on 80's pop hits and always loved Prince, Olivia Newton John, and people like that. When I started writing songs I was influenced a lot by Guided By Voices and early Beatles records.

SKRATCH: TELL ME ABOUT THE CREATIVE PROCESS BEHIND EACH SONG/RELEASE.

BILL: Well we have a formula pretty much that is I write the basics of

each song like the melodies, verses and choruses, then I bring them into the practice room and we bang out the arrangements together. Then lastly, when it's a song we all really like, I go and write lyrics to it.

SKRATCH: HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE SOUND? REASON?

BILL: I would describe our sound as catchy-and-quirky-pop-influenced-stadium-rock-anthems. The reason? Because we all love songs and great songwriting, but grew up on heavy metal and hard rock theatrics and it just feels right to us to combine the two worlds.

SKRATCH: TOURING: A NECESSARY DRAG OR THE BEST THING LIKE EVER?

BILL: Best thing ever.

SKRATCH: ANY ROAD STORIES?

BILL: Too many to mention. Every day is an adventure when you stick 4 dudes in an over packed van and drive hundreds of miles every day.

SKRATCH: ANY UPCOMING TOURS?

BILL: We are going out for about a month touring more of the Midwest, the East Coast and South next week. Something like April 30th to May 31st. Dates are available on our website (ultimatefakebook.com). After that we are doing a bunch of shows in Canada and a week on the Warped Tour in July.

SKRATCH: WHAT DO YOU DO BESIDES BE IN UFB?

BILL: Rocking in UFB is our full time job these days which is awesome. Other than that we go to tons of movies and spend a lot of time with friends when we aren't on the road.

SKRATCH: LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEW STAR WARS?

BILL: Oh hell yeah! I am really trying to be optimistic that it will be better than the last one, but honestly I'm such a Star Wars geek, I'll be into it even if it's worse.

SKRATCH: HOW'S IT FEEL TO BE GETTING ALL THIS ATTENTION?

BILL: Well, it's not like we have

Rolling Stone calling us or anything, but it's pretty rad to know you have fans all over the country who like your music.

SKRATCH: AFTER THIS, WHAT'S GOING ON?

BILL: Well, after we do all the touring and stuff behind this new album, we are going to sit down and start thinking about what we wanna do with the next one. We have some pretty cool ideas and we might throw a wrench of sorts in to the mix and get crazy, but it's too early to tell. I do know that we plan on getting a new one out super soon. Also, we have a finished EP that is to be a split CD with Reggie and the Full Effect ready to be released once they finish their part of it.

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MIND DRIVER



Mind Driver interview featuring HEATH Cofran, JIMMY Lloyd, Mikey Burton, and cameos by Carlos Ortega. by Reid Monaster

A wise man once said, "Good music is good music, and that should be enough for anybody." That wise man was a member of arguably one of the most creative and original bands to ever walk this planet. His name was Bradley Nowell, and the band was Sublime. And while there will never be a fair companion between Sublime and Mind Driver, strangely enough, both bands consist of good music. Same formula; different creative minds. The heart-lifting vocals. For Mind Driver, all the pieces of this puzzle are put together by the combination of the crazy drumming of Mikey Burton, veteran bass player Carlos Ortega, the energy of newcomer Jimmy Lloyd on guitar, and Heath Cofran's soaring vocals. All of the pieces of this puzzle put together have the makings of the formula for a jaw-dropping performance. It doesn't hurt to have the musical influences of a musically and culturally diverse Southern California to draw upon for creativity either. Which is another thing the two bands along with many others in Southern California are lucky enough to have in common. The fol-

low- ing is an interview with Heath, Mikey and Jimmy that took place at Heath's apartment in Costa Mesa, Calif. on April 20, 2002 (minus the presence of Carlos Ortega who was sick with Strep Throat. However, through the miracle of the telephone and e-mail, Carlos makes a few cameos throughout the interview).

(As the interview starts Heath's cat "Foo" is nearby, and ready to answer some questions.)

SKRATCH: What time does the concert start?
HEATH: What?

SKRATCH: The concert. Mikey told me there was a concert.

HEATH: Tonight? We're not playing tonight.

JIMMY: (Confused) Are we?
HEATH: No, we're promoting tonight.

SKRATCH: Really? (Smiles) I'm just kidding.
EVERYONE: Oh.

SKRATCH: If Carlos wasn't sick you could call him up, and tell him to come over, and you could play like right out there. (Points outside.)

HEATH: Yeah, we could, and I'd get kicked out of my apartment.
JIMMY: The neighbors would kill us.

HEATH: The neighbors would shoot us. My apartment people would kill me.

SKRATCH: You guys can't even practice around here, huh?
HEATH: No way, not in the residential areas.

JIMMY: We'd blow the windows out of this place.

SKRATCH: Where do you practice then?
HEATH: In Huntington Beach at a place called (gets into saying the name like his nickname's H-dog) "Grillipp Dogggg." Grip Dog. It's right off Slater and Beach.

JIMMY: We used to share a studio with Zebrahead but we had to go because money was getting tight, and we tried to save some money. We couldn't afford it.

HEATH: Plus they were working on so many songs. They're going to be making an album soon so they needed the studio a lot. So it didn't give us very much time to rehearse. So we had to go somewhere else and let them have their studio to themselves.

SKRATCH: (To Heath) When did you start singing?

HEATH: The first time I think I ever sang like in public. I think I was 11-years-old. I was part of this soloist choir where you could only do solos. You weren't allowed to sing with a bunch of people, and there was this like I don't know if it was a competition or what, but I remember the first song that I ever sang in front of people was "Ghost Riders in the Sky" by Johnny Cash. That's the first song I ever sang. I was 11-years-old. That was the first time.

SKRATCH: Did you sing a lot after that?
HEATH: Just off and on. You know just kinda like everyone does. Sings in the shower. Sings to the radio. I always had a lot of people tell me that I could sing stuff perfectly. Like Green Day, and those kinda bands. They would say you should try to be in a band. I'd be like, 'Forget that I can't be up in front of people. I'd be petrified.'

SKRATCH: So how did that work when you tried out for Mind Driver. How did that come to be?

HEATH: It was like a fluke. They had an ad out in Bam Magazine. There was ad in Bam, and they were looking for a singer, and like at the time, I was really into Gwen. This was like when No Doubt was first starting to get their name out there, and I got the Bam Magazine cuz Gwen was on the cover, and I was looking through it blah, blah. At the very end of it, at the back of it, there was a band looking for a singer, and their influences were NOFX, Bad Religion, Descendents, and I think they put Lagwagon, and Lagwagon was my favorite band. So I called up the number, and said, 'Yeah, I want to come tryout for your band,' and they were like, 'Oh did you sing before?' I'm like, 'Oh yeah, I sing all the time.' (laughing) Just totally

lied my ass off, and then I hung up the phone. I'm like, 'Oh my god, I can't believe I said that.' So then I showed up, and I had never sang with a band before. So I just "winged" it, and they're like, 'OK make up something to this music.' I'm like, 'Yeah sure.' (laughs) I didn't know what I was doing, but I just made up something, and they liked it, and they called me back the next day.

SKRATCH: So the reason why we're all sitting here right now is because you liked Gwen Stefani?

HEATH: Yup. Uh. Hmmm. Exactly. I still like her.

(At this point Mikey tells a big lie [the writer will leave it at that], and from there the conversation goes way off track. Notable topics include: Mikey's dreams, Jimmy's salty balls, Britney Spears, making fun of Heath's TV, making some more fun of Heath's TV, having my own show on HBO [with Mind Driver as my guests], making fun of Heath's TV again, and finally Mikey's tattoo of an outline of RuPaul on his butt.)

SKRATCH: Since it was tough enough just to get all of us here, and Carlos isn't even here right now. I was going to say to get all five of us in one place. What is it like for all four of you to meet to practice or get to a concert on time?

JIMMY: (Without even a second of hesitation) Heath's always late! (Mikey laughs.)

HEATH: (Gets mad.) Dude, fuck you. No, I'm not!

MIKEY: (Agrees.) Heath's always late. (laughs) He's late to practice sometimes, and then he complains, 'Dude where's the microphones. Why didn't you guys get the microphones and stuff.' (Jimmy laughs.)

JIMMY: (Admits.) Let's say not all the time but more than us.

MIKEY: When we're busy setting up a total drum set, and amp.

JIMMY: (Still laughing.) A microphone. He's worried about unplugging one outlet.

MIKEY: (Admits.) Usually none of us really get to shows late. We're pretty much on time. That happened before, like earlier with other band members. Before it came to be what it is now with these guys. Us.

SKRATCH: I heard that Carlos just had his 25th birthday. That sounds about right. Right?

EVERYONE: Yeah.

SKRATCH: 4-18. So I wanted to say Happy Birthday Carlos.

HEATH: Happy Birthday Carlos. Carlos is a sweet bitch. We love him.

JIMMY: He is.

(The band explains why Carlos wasn't able to be at the interview.)

SKRATCH: I guess that makes sense that Carlos isn't here. If you guys have a show the 23rd, and you (Heath) get Strep Throat; you guys have a problem.

HEATH: We're done!

JIMMY: Holy shit! We've got a show in a couple days?

HEATH: Tuesday.

SKRATCH: If you guys (Mikey, Jimmy, and Carlos) got Strep Throat, and you were dying it would be possible for you guys to play. You might pass out half way through, but with him (Heath) ...

JIMMY: I played with Strep Throat. I played with a fever when we played in Ventura. I was burning hot, sweating before we got on the stage. I played sick as a dog, but it's different when you're singing, because if he has a throat problem, he's basically screwed. I could jump around with the guitar all night.

SKRATCH: He (Heath) might sound like Mike Myers on Saturday Night Live. (Does best Linda Richman impression.) "Tawk amongst yourselves."

HEATH: I had Strep Throat like the week before our video premiere party at the Key Club. I still wasn't completely healed yet, but I still made it through the set, but it sucks if I had a throat infection. You're screwed. So that's why Carlos isn't here.

(The conversation then moves on to their video premiere party April 5 at the Key Club. Their video for their song "Lesbian" premiered on a giant screen as big as the stage.)

SKRATCH: Tell me about the video.

HEATH: Well how the video even came to be is we have a management team, and one of them was friends with the director, and the director of the video who did commercials, like major commercials for TV. He was trying to break in doing music videos. So he was talking around to a bunch of friends, and he ended up talking to one of our managers. He was like, 'I'm trying to make a video. Do you know of a Orange County band, fun kinda music that I can make a video with? A band that's not signed. A band that's looking to further their career, and I want to help.' So our manager gave him our CD. He loved the CD. He loved it, and he's like, 'These guys are perfect! I want to come see them play.' So he came down to the Viper Room with a bunch of his crew, and watched us play, and he was like he wanted to work with us. So we had dinner with him one night before one of our shows, and he pitched us this idea. He wanted to do a video for "Lesbian." A story about a guy getting dissed by his girlfriend, and leaving him for another girl. So he came up with the video idea, and we thought it was cool. So he spent \$25,000, and with his company put the video together in two days. We shot it in Hollywood in March.

SKRATCH: What's the company?

HEATH: Pneumatic Picture's. The director's name is Ian Sheron.

JIMMY: Yeah, thank you Ian. He took money out of his pocket, and he totally did something not very many people in the world would do for a

band. He's taking a huge chance on us, and himself because if this doesn't work for him he's out \$25,000. That's a lot of money. I don't care what anybody says, that's a lot of money. He's taking a huge chance on us, and we're going to do our best not to let him down. We're going to try to come back and make it worth his while because he's a great guy. I'm proud of it. I'm glad he wrote it for us.

SKRATCH: Who's the girl in the video?

HEATH: The main girl, her name's Gina. She's a friend of ours, and she wanted to be in the part. We're trying to help her get some work. Maybe do some acting. Get her out there doing some modeling. Whatever gets her face out there. The video was really fun. We had such a fun time doing it. If we could do it over again we'd do it again tomorrow. Minus the cold water. (Jimmy laughs) but everything else was so fun. You feel like a real rock star for one day. You had people doing your makeup. People getting you food. People taking care of you. It was probably the coolest thing that's ever happened with Mind Driver for me.

JIMMY: I'd have to say Justin from Zebrahead looks pretty floofy holding the little tiny dog in the background in one of the scenes.

HEATH: Yeah, the guys from Zebrahead were in our video. A very cool little cameo.

JIMMY: So what's up Zebrahead guys.

SKRATCH: That's cool. No matter what happens with you guys from here. All the time and effort that you put into your album, and that video. To have something completed that you can show people and they can listen to. Just to say that you did that regardless of what happens from here.

HEATH: Yeah, I can always say, 'I got a chance to make a real music video,' and I'll be showing it to my kids one day and they'll be laughing at what a geek their dad was.

JIMMY: A lot of my friends, after they saw this video, they were very stoked, and I haven't gotten a response like that from my friends in a long time.

HEATH: We're hoping with the video, our management, Singerman Entertainment is giving our video to all the record labels. A lot of the record labels that have listened to our CD. They said they like the CD, but a lot of them haven't had a chance to come out and see us yet. So we're hoping it'll help. So our management is going to give them all a copy of the video so that they can see what this band is all about. So we're hoping it'll help the labels to let them know who we are.

(HEATH talks about Karl leaving the band because of work issues, and Neal Burns changing the band with good songwriting, helping with Satellite TV, and then leaving the band after about a year to go to art school.)

SKRATCH: Who is the rookie over there?

HEATH: Jimmy came into the band in October 2001, and gave the band the biggest change Mind Driver's ever had. It's all because of

Jimmy.

SKRATCH: (To Jimmy) How did you find out about the tryout for a new Mind Driver guitarist? Please briefly describe the process involved in you being selected as the new guitarist?

JIMMY: It was weird how I got in the band. I was having problems with the band I was in at the time, so I decided to quit. The first band I thought of asking to join was Mind Driver. I had no idea they were looking for a guitar player, but I wanted to ask if they ever thought about adding a second guitar player. So I sent Heath an e-mail asking if they needed a second guitar player. The weird thing is I went to a different e-mail account and there was an e-mail from Mikey pretending to be a big time manager asking me to try out for Mind Driver. They were trying to contact me before I even asked them if they needed a guitar player. I guess it was fate that things worked out that way. Anyway, they gave me a CD to learn, I did my best to learn most of the songs on it, and then I went out and played with them at their studio. I have been in the band ever since. As far as the process of me being selected: Carlos and Mikey drove over to my house at like 12:30 on a Monday night to hand me a demo CD and to talk a bit about what was going on. They asked me to learn a couple of songs and then go back in a week and tryout. Then the next day, they called me, which was a Tuesday and asked me to come in on Wednesday and play some music. I said no, freaked out cause I hadn't even heard the demo yet, and they said that they were going to give me a week to learn it, and they ended up giving me 24 hours. I went to their studio and did my best, even though it was extremely hard to remember all the songs I had just learned and had only spent like two hours with.

SKRATCH: Were you in another band prior to Mind Driver?

JIMMY: The last band I was in was a band called Fifty7down. Nothing special there. Just four guys that worked really hard at what we did and ended up breaking up. Some of us don't even talk anymore, which is sad, but I guess you always find out who your true friends are the hardest ways. I am much happier now. I feel like I can really expand myself way better with Mind Driver. I wouldn't change anything for the world.

SKRATCH: Was there any initiation since he's the new guy?

HEATH: Yeah, he had to play.

MIKEY: (Interrupts) The skin flute.

HEATH: Yeah, he had to play our Queen Mary shows in October. I think he joined the band seven days before our first. In October, we play the Queen Mary ShipWreck. Like 13 nights of shows, two shows a night. I think he joined the band like a week before we were supposed to do that. So he had to learn like 13 songs in like a week, and we had to play like 26 shows in one month. So that was pretty much his initiation.

MIKEY: And he had to wear a costume and

makeup.
JIMMY: Yeah, I had to dress like a skeleton.
MIKEY: He was a fucking champ about it.
JIMMY: It was worth it.
MIKEY: That was cool.
HEATH: We all had to beat him up too. Just one time. His first practice we all had to jump him.

SKRATCH: That was actually what I meant initiation.
JIMMY: Oh believe me, when I first joined this band I got initiated just by conversation with these guys. (Everyone laughs, then Jimmy goes into explicit detail about his special relationship with Carlos. Writer's Note: out of respect for SKRATCH, and its readership, the writer chooses to spare the aforementioned of any details. Sufficed to say it is a very heartwarming story that brings tears to the writer's eyes.)
JIMMY: (Continues with a different story) Another thing was the first time I actually came to play with these guys. Zebrahead, because we shared a studio with them at the time, they were sitting around, and I had to basically tryout in front of the guys from Zebrahead, which was stressful for me because that's a band that I've always liked. They're a great Orange County band, and all of the sudden I'm trying out in front of these guys.

SKRATCH: (To Jimmy) You are pretty new to the band, but a lot of the stuff that's happening is new to all of you guys, right?
HEATH: Well, a lot of it has to do with what the band has been missing from the very beginning. We never really took it seriously. We were always just kinda, 'Hey a bunch of friends, let's jam our music, and let's have some fun.' We never took anything seriously. Just kinda whatever happened, happened. Then when Jimmy came along, it was like holy shit. This guy jumps around. He writes really good songs, and then all of the sudden all of the pieces of our puzzle were like fit perfectly, and everyone was like, 'You guys are ready. This is what you guys have been waiting for, for someone like that to come along,' and we were like 'Uh OK.' That was in October. So from October till now we've been taking it seriously. From like five years of just screwing around, and having fun, writing songs to the last five or six months really taking it seriously. Wow you really think we can be something. So all of the things new that have been happening is because of the new entity that we are.

SKRATCH: How big of a deal was it to play at that Finch CD release party at the House of Blues (in Anaheim, Calif.)?
JIMMY: That band is amazing. That band is so good!
HEATH: First of all, that show in March at the House of Blues was sold out by like 8:30. So we got to play at the House of Blues for the first time to a packed crowd. We had a lot of our own fans there to see us too. So that made us feel a little bit at home by them chanting us out.
JIMMY: Singing along.
HEATH: Singing some songs.
MIKEY: We probably had a couple hundred people there.
HEATH: It felt incredible to me. Before the curtain opened up if you could have seen that. There was so much anticipation. Jimmy was jumping around going crazy. Like 'Ahhh! Mikey was like, 'Come on, come on, let's go' (amazingly enough Heath, tells another heartwarming story about Carlos), and as soon as the curtains opened up we just rocked our asses off. Halfway through the set, I wanted to let people know that we're an unsigned band, and this is who we are. Joking about this is what happens when you are an unsigned band, and you don't have any money. (Carlos' bass broke during sound check, and he didn't have a back up bass.)
JIMMY: I think we gained a lot of respect, not only from other fans, but from other bands. Just like, Allister, (another Drive-Thru band) after our set was done. They wanted CDs for themselves.
MIKEY: Even though we got knocked down to first, we took it in stride. A year ago we weren't playing with any signed bands at all, and now it seems like most of the bands are signed. (Mikey thanks Sean at the House of Blues for helping them to be a part of that show.)

SKRATCH: How did your remake of Generator come about?
HEATH: We put out our own CD in November 99, and the label that helped us kinda put it out through their label, Tru-One records. We paid to record it in their studio. They offered to help distribute it. So a couple of years later, they wanted to use us for this Bad Religion Tribute CD they were putting together.

So they contacted us, 'Would you like to help with a song for our Bad Religion Tribute album called Along the Way?' So we were like, 'Shit yeah!' Carlos was so happy. Bad Religion is like his Gods. We picked like five songs and we kept narrowing it down, and "Generator" was the one that we all agreed on.

SKRATCH: Who is Bobby Brooks?
MIKEY: He's the guy who our manager hooked us up with to get a better sounding demo. He's a pretty good engineer. So we went to him and he recorded that Satellite TV demo. He's done a lot of good stuff. Helped do some of the P.O.D. stuff. He did stuff from now all the way back to Rick James.
JIMMY: Rick James, Michael Jackson, Diana Ross. Rick James' sister lives with him.
HEATH: Bobby Brooks is cool. He helped bring out something in Mind Driver that nobody has been able to do.
MIKEY: We didn't have the money to do them either so that was a step up for us too.
HEATH: He knows how to get a good sound. I've never had anyone tell me how to sing before and he did, and it worked.
MIKEY: He was like a comfort zone. We stepped into his little world, but we knew already from what we had, had put out and tried to do ourselves he had. He had the stuff to do it. So it's like right away we kinda felt like no matter what even if he did a crappy job it's gonna sound ten times better than anything we've done.
SKRATCH: How did you come up with the title for the EP? Satellite TV? What's that about?
HEATH: It was basically from "Stuck on Me." In "Stuck on Me" there's a part where it says "Satellite TV." We just thought it was a cool catchy little, just a cool name to name an EP.
JIMMY: Because we want Direct TV to sponsor us. (Heath laughs.)

SKRATCH: What made you guys decide to record a different version of "Light's Out"?
HEATH: That actually came through on our fans. We put a question out on our Web site: Which song of all of our songs we've ever done. Which song would you kinda like to see redone professionally, a good recording? And a lot of people said "Light's Out," and our management really liked the song, and thought it could do well. When we recorded it for Ten Percent of Nothing, that was one of the songs that our management said, 'That is a damn good song.' So we kinda took it, tightened it up, and made it sound better than it was before, and re-recorded it.

SKRATCH: What's the "Because We Care" CD about? How did you get involved with that?
HEATH: Kevin Knight who runs Glue Factory records is a friend of mine, and he also works at Chain Reaction, which is like our home club. When our CD came out in October of 2001, and him and John who does the booking at Chain Reaction, they loved "Stuck on Me." That was his favorite song off the demo CD. So he wanted to put together this benefit program for the Orange County Children's Hospital to raise money for the Children's hospital through music and he chose that song "Stuck on Me," and asked us if we wanted to be a part of it, and we accepted. Hopefully the CD will do well, and it looks like it will. There's a lot of really good bands on there.

SKRATCH: What happens when people buy the CD? Does all the money go towards the hospital?
HEATH: All of the profits go towards the hospital. We were happy to be involved with something like that.

SKRATCH: I heard you are trying to get onto a local radio station in Orange County.
JIMMY: 94.3 is a local Orange County station that we'd like to be on, and Tazy Phylipz (of the Ska Parade/SP Radio One) is one of the guys who does it, and I think the other guy's name is Scott. Basically they play local Orange County bands, and sometimes they play bigger bands like No Doubt and stuff, but basically you have to be from Orange County in order to hear the station, and that's one of the station's we were trying to push people to get us on, and hopefully we do get on it.
HEATH: We are trying to get our music on a local station to get local people to hear who we are from one source.

SKRATCH: What's your favorite song to play or perform?
MIKEY: Probably my favorite song to play just because it's fun to play, and it's easy is "Lesbian." I look forward to playing that song just to take a

breather, and actually look out to the crowd.
JIMMY: I like em all. I can't chose there's not one I prefer more than another.
HEATH: My favorite song to sing is "Away." "Away" is my favorite just because there is so much passion behind that song. Where that song came from, and how it got to be the way it sounds. It's amazing to me. So when I get to sing that in a set, I am very happy when it comes up.
JIMMY: (Remembers.) OK, my favorite song to play even though we don't even play it. We play it rarely now more than before is "Real," off of Ten Percent of Nothing. I love playing that song. It's just fun.
CARLOS: I love playing "Stuck on Me" because vocally the back ups are fun to sing. It has a great chorus.

SKRATCH: What is your favorite Mind Driver song in general? (Not just to play or sing.)
JIMMY: I would have to say it is a tie between "Forever" and "Away." I can listen to those two songs over and over again.
HEATH: It's "Away." That is my all-time favorite Mind Driver song.

SKRATCH: What's the hardest song for you to play?
JIMMY: I can really say that none of them are hard for me to play. The hardest part about playing any Mind Driver song for me at least is the back up vocals. "Atlanta" is the easiest song in the world to play on guitar but the back ups kill me every time. I never really had to sing all that well with back ups because all my prior bands had singers that couldn't sing for shit compared to Heath.
MIKEY: None of the songs are hard to play (any more) cause I practice them all the time like musicians should.
CARLOS: I really don't have trouble with any of our songs musically, vocally the song "Away" is pretty tough on the back up vocals cause if I'm not on you can notice.

SKRATCH: (To Carlos) You got to do a bass solo during "Remember When." What's that like playing live? Is there anything else that you want to say about that song?
CARLOS: Playing the bass solo for "Remember When" is great for me cause I get the spotlight for a few seconds, and bass players rarely do. The only other thing I have to say about the song is: I'd rather have "Tio" (R.I.P.) here than the song!

SKRATCH: Do you have a favorite song? (Other bands.)
JIMMY: I would have to say my favorite song of all time is "Circles" by Sunny Day Real Estate, but my favorite song that has come out recently is by far "Stay with Me" by Finch.
HEATH: "Everlong" is my most favorite song of all time.
MIKEY: My favorite song from another band would be (I don't know) there's too many kinds of music and too many bands and styles of music that I like.
CARLOS: I love so many songs. I don't think I have a favorite, but definitely something by the Beatles, Bad Religion and the Descendents.

SKRATCH: What are your favorite bands that you have played with?
HEATH: The best band of all for me is a band called Sugarcult. They're like our favorite band to play with. When we get a chance to play with them we are so happy. The guys are cool, they have great music, their fans are awesome, their management is awesome. Everyone that has to do with them. In my book, that's my favorite band to play with locally. Just because there is so many different aspects of the people, and everyone with them. Everyone's cool.
MIKEY: I liked playing with Finch a lot. That was very shocking to see them a while back, and then all of the sudden at that show. They just really blew me away. That was awesome, and I love every song. Awesome show. I'm like the most critical about. I like seeing a show. They put on a kick ass show. I felt privileged to play with them. They were giving it their all.
JIMMY: I'd have to say Finch also. When we played with them, they weren't one of my favorite bands at the time, and I knew little about them. After we played, and I saw them play I was blown away. I felt honored to share the same stage with them. (Heath asks Carlos over the phone)
HEATH says for CARLOS: He says Sugarcult because he loves their music and what they're all about.

SKRATCH: Who would you "like" to play with?
HEATH: (Still talking to him on the phone) Carlos

says Bad Religion hands down.
MIKEY: I'd probably say No Use for a Name, Lagwagon or probably Face to Face too, because they seem really down to earth.
JIMMY: There's a lot of bands that I'd like to play with, but one of them right off the bat, and not because I'm a fan, it's because their stage show is far superior than a lot of the bands that are out there, and I just want to go up there, and try to beat their stage show, and kick their ass, (Mikey laughs) and say 'I got Sum 41 underneath my belt now.' Even though that would be extremely hard to do because their stage show is unbelievable.
HEATH: It's been my goal, and this band's, ever since I got in this band. That I've been working so hard to try and open for them is Lagwagon. That's like the number one band. That's my goal before this band ends. Before I'm not singing anymore, I'm going to open for Lagwagon. No matter what. Lagwagon is the reason I'm even a singer.

SKRATCH: What are some of your favorite places to play?
HEATH: House of Blues is one of my favorites just because the sound is incredible. When we were up there playing, it was like I was watching us. That's how it sounded. It sounded good. For like the sound, but I think my favorite place to play is the Whiskey. I really like the Whiskey a lot. Just the whole history of the place, the sound there all around when they have it all set up. I think those two places are my favorites.
JIMMY: Hands down the House of Blues. They feed you before we play. (Mikey laughs agreeingly.) They put out food, they feed me before I play. I could play to two people as long as they feed me.
MIKEY: The House of Blues and the Whiskey. They treat you better than any other club. The House of Blues was really cool. They kept it so tight with, 'What do you guys play? Where's your stuff? How do you set it up? Faxed it to us.' They wanted to know everything. When we got there, they took care of business. They had food. They had the whole deal. The House of Blues by far.
HEATH: More shows at the House of Blues please.

SKRATCH: On the Web site, there is a picture of a goofy looking guy that kinda looks like Heath eating a Hot Dog. What is that all about? (Jimmy laughs.)
HEATH: (Busted) Oh shit. I did some modeling for Tilly's, a clothing store a lot of people know of, and a bunch of the pictures were used in magazines. So some of the fans took pictures and sent them in to the Web site. It was funny. It was like a joke. It was a joke kinda thing. So we thought it would be funny to have on there.

SKRATCH: All of you joined Mind Driver at different times over the years. What does this band mean to you?
CARLOS: This band is my life. It has been for the last six years or so. Going through changes over the years was frustrating with different members coming and going, but now I know it was for the best and I'm happy!
HEATH: This band to me means friendship through music. Writing music that we believe and have passion for. We all click together so well and write so well together, the songs that we create really come out good when we all put in our 2 cents and put all of our musical influences together. I think that is one thing that really makes us stand out from other bands. Not all songs sound the same. As the great Louis Armstrong once said, "What we play is life."
JIMMY: This band means the world to me. I would want nothing more than to play with these guys for the rest of my life. SKRATCH: Since you weren't able to be present at the interview because of your illness is there anything you want to contribute?
CARLOS: Yes, I'd like to say that I'm cool, and I'm a chick magnet! Peace to everyone, and remember live and let live!

SKRATCH: I don't think it's possible to make a song sound better or more original than a lot of your songs already. My personal opinion is you guys are good right now, and have been for a while. If I had any money I'd sign you to my own label. (Jimmy laughs) but you'd have to have to make me a deal. For your next video, you need to wear pants! (Everyone laughs.)
JIMMY: What's wrong with the Speedo? Man, those were custom made for us. I can make that deal no problem!

Check out Mind Driver's Web site at www.minddriver.org.



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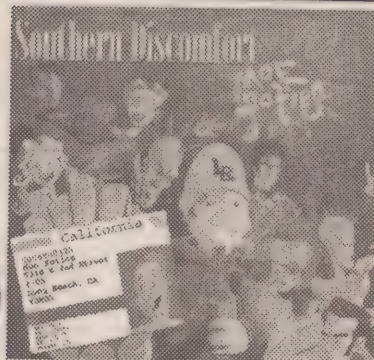
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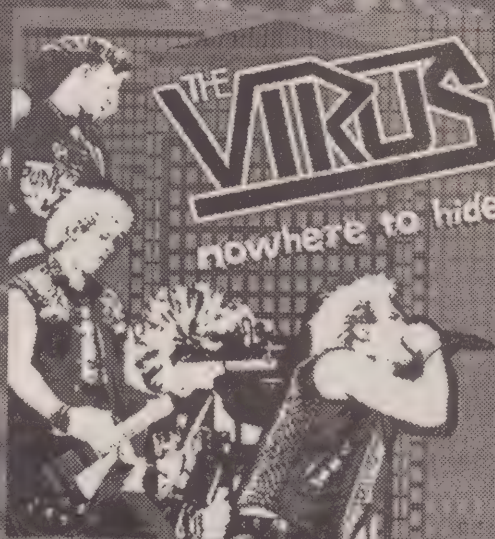
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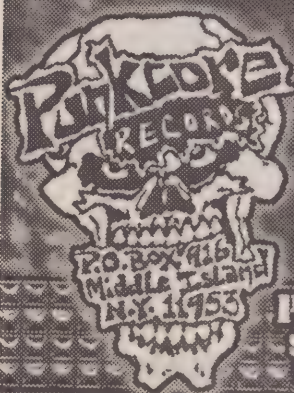
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the line

interview

By Natalie Verdone

Donald Horne, singer and guitar player for the punk rock quartet, The Line, recently took a moment to conduct a candid e-mail interview with SKRATCH Magazine on the past and present doings of his band. Since 1994, these four guys from Big Bear Lake, Calif., have played their melodic brand of punk rock, touring constantly, and releasing four full-length albums on Volcom Entertainment along the way. Look out for these troublemakers as they rock the entire Warped Tour this summer.

SKRATCH: How did The Line come about?

HORNE: I met Ryan and Rich in high school in Big Bear Lake, Calif. They were playing and writing songs together already and had only been playing for a short time. They were writing really fucked up shit, strange arrangements. I was blown away. I

think they were trying to do one another, but had a really good creative vibe going, so I was eager to join up with them. We soon became good friends and everything started to click and local kids to notice, and we had some really fucking wild times in a lot of living rooms in that town. We had been pepper sprayed by local police while playing, leading the kids to smash their police cars - all sorts of good fun...

"We had been pepper sprayed by local police while playing, leading the kids to smash their police cars - all sorts of good fun..."



solid line-up.

SKRATCH: How was the response for your last album, Monsters We Breed?

HORNE: I don't pay much attention to critics. I really don't give a flying fuck what they think. For me it was a

breath of fresh air and I loved making this album very much. I know some reviewers have hated it and some love it. To each there own. After all, the kids have the control.

SKRATCH: How would you (musically) describe the album?

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HORNE: It's dynamic, progressive, and still very easy to sing along to.

SKRATCH: How has The Line's sound changed since you started recording in 1994?

HORNE: Our sound is always evolving and we like to create a new vibe

with each project we do, that's what our sound is - whatever feels unique at the time, mixed with our life experiences. On *Monsters We Breed*, we cut everything that was similar to what we've already done, and what was trendy and lame at the time, and just went with the ideas that were original and fresh and fun to play

SKRATCH: What else has The Line been up to these days? Are you guys working on a new album?

HORNE: We are writing a lot of new stuff always. I plan on writing a lot of new songs on the road this summer, as well. I think we will do a new record or a split or something fun after this summer. We are on the road from April through November non-stop, so we'll see what happens.

SKRATCH: What bands inspire the band to keep playing music?

HORNE: I'm not really into one band. I'm inspired by good songs, good lyrics and the other guys in my band. It's great to get to write music with guys that surprise you with great ideas every time we sit down to write together.

SKRATCH: Who are your favorite bands to tour with?

HORNE: Deviates, Guttermouth, Pennywise, Strung Out. Bands that can have a good time on the road without whining and bitching about everything. You can't take shit too seriously out there or you'll go nuts. We're lucky to be doing what we're doing.

SKRATCH: What drives you crazy

about being a member of a band?
HORNE: Paying my rent

SKRATCH: Any weird/funny/disgusting tour stories?

HORNE: The best one I can think of is me and Ryan Immegart smuggling hash in our mouths through the Czech Republic border on our first Euro tour.

SKRATCH: Do you guys still live in Costa Mesa, Calif.?

HORNE: Of course. The weather is the best in the world.

SKRATCH: What is/was the punk scene like out there nowadays?

HORNE: I think it is an exciting time for underground music right now. There's been so much crap out there the last few years, and there's so much new stuff out that's all different. I think kids are opening up their minds to other things. They know now that being punk is not whining about losing your girlfriend, or hiding behind a ripped-off NOFX riff. But we're not really a punk band on today's standards, we're a modern band. I'm interested in all music and like to play all sorts of music. Punk has become what critics just call fast music, it seems, and that's sad. Punk is a way of thinking, an attitude, being yourself and laughing 'cause the dork jocks think you're lame. Fuck 'em they'll be working at Circle K soon enough; I've seen it with my own eyes.

SKRATCH: Where are your favorite places to play?

HORNE: South Bay, Los Angeles area

is always great to us, as well as Virginia Beach, Virginia, Florida, or anywhere the kids show up to see us, one or hundreds.

SKRATCH: Are you stoked to be playing the Warped Tour again?

HORNE: We're not a huge band, so we're stoked that we keep getting invited back. Warped Tour has been great to us. When we started we were pretty much unknown (still are) but, it is a great tour to meet new fans and see new bands,

SKRATCH: Are you guys full-time rock stars, or do you have other jobs?

HORNE: Me and Mike are full-time rock stars baby! We just don't make much cash - ha! I still work odd jobs from time to time, but we tour too much to keep any job for too long. But trust me, I've done every shit job there is.

SKRATCH: Do you hate or love e-mail interviews?

HORNE: I don't mind them, I wanna add that SKRATCH is one of the only zines that has been respectful to us about what we are doing, whether they have liked it or not. They pointed out time and time again that we're not here to follow any trends, or to sound like anyone else, and that's what's important to me. The Line is a life-long commitment, so watch the fuck out

Check out the Line during the Warped Tour during all dates. Also, more info is available about the band at www.theline1.com.

FIFTEEN MINUTES

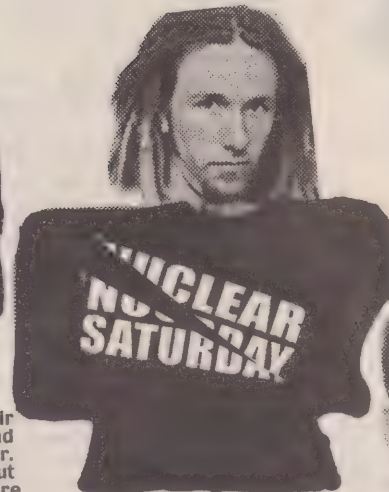
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"I'm getting a Flux capacitor tattoo on my arm and I



NUCLEAR SATURDAY

Interview by: Terese Leon

Fans of Face to Face, New Found Glory and ALL/Descendants will appreciate Nuclear Saturday's innovative pop-punk-emo sound. With poppy melodic guitars and lyrics that alternate between sorrow and hope, these guys change moods with every song. Formed in 1997, Nuclear Saturday has toured the US once and has played shows with Teen Idols, Link 80 and Welt. A second US tour is being planned with Left Front Tire, 7-10 Split, and Lillygag. Expect them on the West Coast in August.

SKRATCH: WHAT DOES NUCLEAR SATURDAY MEAN?
MARC: It's from The Goonies. Mouth says it.

SKRATCH: NO WAY! IN WHAT PART?
MARC: Mouth walks into the house and says it when everyone is all down and out about leaving the Goondocks. "Come on, what is this, a nuclear Saturday or something?" I love that movie.

SKRATCH: RIGHT ON. 80'S MOVIES ARE THE BEST. WHAT OTHER 80'S FLICKS ARE YOU INTO?
MARC: Debby Does Dallas, Better Off Dead, Home Alone. Pretty much all of them. Back to The Future is my favorite. I'm getting a Flux capacitor tattoo on my arm and I think I just found a Delorian to buy.

SKRATCH: FLUX CAPACITOR TATTOO? I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER

WHAT THE F L U X CAPACITOR LOOKED LIKE.

MARC: It was the thing that looked like a triangle kinda.

SKRATCH: DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER TATTOOS?

MARC: I got this really bad punk rock tattoo that says, "Let's go to fist city" on my right arm at the shoulder. Everyone rips on me about it. I got a martini glass with the band's name on it on my right arm, a flaming heart on my left arm, the Virgin Mary also on my left arm and two, count them two, nautical stars on my forearms, and a few others.

SKRATCH: SO YOU HAVE ONE WITH THE BAND'S NAME ON IT? WHEN DID YOU GET THAT?
MARC: I got that on my 21st birthday. All my friends chipped in. It's a rad tattoo.

SKRATCH: DO THE OTHER GUYS IN THE BAND HAVE NUCLEAR SATURDAY TATTOOS ALSO?
MARC: Not yet. But we are all going to get the same thing in a month or so. I'm pushing for dicks. I'm joking.

SKRATCH: SO I HAVE TO ASK. IN YOUR CD BOOK, YOU THANK MILLWALL BRICKS AND THEN SAY "SORRY ABOUT THE SLEEPING BAG." WHAT'S THAT ALL ABOUT?
MARC: Well, what happened was, and I swear I speak the truth, we were on tour and we just got done playing a show in Springfield, Illinois. We crashed at their house, then when we packed up the next morning. Someone

rolled up one of their sleeping bags and threw it in our trailer. I feel terrible about it. Next time we're there, I'll bring it with me and give it back.

SKRATCH: WHAT CDS HAVE YOU BEEN LISTENING TO RECENTLY?
MARC: I've been listening a lot to Weezer "The Blue Album", Blink "Enema of the State," the '80s channel. I can't think of anything else. That's weird. You know what song rules? "Dawson's Creek" song. And "We built This City on Rock and Roll" by Starship.

SKRATCH: ARE YOU PLANNING A TOUR FOR "A CINDERELLA STORY?"
MARC: Yes, we are. It's being booked right now. We're going with Left Front Tire, o u r

homeboys. They were on the American Ple 2 sound track. They are so good.

SKRATCH: I'LL HAVE TO SEE THEM WHEN YOU TOUR. I JUST HEARD YOUR CD FOR THE FIRST TIME A FEW DAYS AGO, AND I REALLY LIKE YOUR MUSIC. SOME O F



THE LYRICS ARE SO SAD THOUGH! WHO WRITES THEM?

MARC: Jason, he likes The Cure.

SKRATCH: A LOT OF THE LYRICS ARE ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS GONE BAD RIGHT? ARE THOSE FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCES?

think I just found a Delorian to buy."

MARC: We've all had our share of being shit on by girls. Nice guys finish last. As much as I want to be one of those asshole guys, when I try to do it, I usually get laughed at and they say stop it.

SKRATCH: BUT YOU GUYS ARE IN A BAND! YOU PROBABLY HAVE GIRLS ALL OVER YOU AT YOUR SHOWS, RIGHT?

MARC: Um, yeah, that's right. I have to fend them off with my guitar.

SKRATCH: WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE CITY AND VENUE TO PLAY AT?

MARC: I'm a New Yorker, but still I'd have to say San Diego Epicenter.

SKRATCH: SAN DIEGO, REALLY? WHY?

MARC: Good response, the people are cool, and Disneyland. We have Six Flags here in Atlanta. It's rad. It's like a white trash Disney. Every time I've been there I've seen a fight between dumb rednecks.

SKRATCH: THAT SUCKS. ISN'T IT SUPPOSED TO BE LIKE A FAMILY PLACE?

MARC: For rednecks, yes. It's just not as happy as the mouse.

SKRATCH: YEAH, NOTHING BEATS THE MOUSE, I GUESS.

MARC:

Except a mousetrap. That always beats the mouse.

SKRATCH: DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS?

MARC: No. Animals rule though. I want a dog.

SKRATCH: SO ARE YOU AGAINST ANIMAL TESTING AND LEATHER AND FUR AND ALL THAT THEN?

MARC: No. Meat is food. I hope that doesn't piss any one off.

SKRATCH: ARE YOU RELIGIOUS? I THOUGHT I SAW THAT NUCLEAR SATURDAY THANKED GOD IN THE CD?

MARC: I'm Catholic and because I don't "act like a Christian," people tell me I'm not and that to me says they have the total wrong idea about what they think they believe in.

SKRATCH: IF SOMEONE HAD NEVER HEARD NUCLEAR SATURDAY, HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR MUSIC TO THEM?

MARC: Descendents meets Blink with a splash of Weezer and a dash of AC/DC. BAM!!!!

SKRATCH: SOUNDS LIKE YOU'VE BEEN WRITING SOME PRESS RELEASES.

MARC: Yeah, recently we've been sending out a lot of stuff to Mesa Boogie, Fender and some other people.

SKRATCH: WHAT HAVE YOU AND THE REST OF THE GUYS BEEN UP TO AFTER MAKING THE RECORD?

MARC: Actually we wrote some new songs that caught the attention of some big wigs and we are throwing them on the record. It's being produced by the one and only Don

McClister. He's done Sister Hazel, stuff for Elton John, OutKast, who rules by the way, and Marvelous 3.

SKRATCH: WHEN IS THAT EXPECTED OUT?

MARC: Soon. By the time we go on tour.

SKRATCH: WHEN ARE YOU GOING ON TOUR?

MARC: We leave for the West Coast with Left Front Tire, 7-10 Split, and Lillygag on August 3.

SKRATCH: GOT ANY JOKES?

MARC: I got one... So a horse walks into a barn and says give me a beer and a mustache.

SKRATCH: THAT'S IT? I DON'T GET IT.

MARC: You want a better



grown from there.

SKRATCH: HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN DOING THAT FOR?

MARC: I've been recording since I was 15. I had a 4 track and I did all my old bands demos and stuff, so it has just kind of

grown from there.

SKRATCH: WHAT ABOUT THE REST OF THE BAND? WHAT DO THEY DO OUTSIDE OF NUCLEAR SATURDAY?

MARC: Tom works for his dad, Jason works at Old Navy and Jace works at Starbucks, the nazi coffee company.

SKRATCH: WHEN YOU TOUR, DO PEOPLE EVER BRING YOU PRESENTS? LIKE I KNOW SOME BANDS GET DOLLS AND CIGARETTES AND STUFF. WHAT ABOUT YOU GUYS?

MARC: Last time we were on tour this 15-year-old girl tried to give me her shirt and I told her that was ok. Then she said she wanted my autograph so I told her I wanted her autograph and she gave it to me.

SKRATCH: CUTE! DO YOU STILL HAVE IT?

MARC: Probably not. I think it may be in the darkened corners of our van.

SKRATCH: SO 15 IS TOO YOUNG FOR SHIRT STEALING THEN? HOW OLD ARE YOU AND THE REST OF THE BAND?

MARC: Yes, 15 is too young. I'm 23, Jace is 24, Tom is 23 and Jason is 22. He's the baby.

SKRATCH: OK, MORE RANDOMNESS. HAVE YOU SEEN THE OSBOURNES?

MARC: No, I don't have cable. I want to though.

SKRATCH: OH NO! I'M GOING TO TAPE IT FOR YOU.

bor's house and wished her a good-night at like 3 in the mozack. This is true.

SKRATCH: LUCKY GIRL!

MARC: Not really. My balls are on my ass and on the outside of my sack. I'm sitting on them right now.

SKRATCH: OH MY GOD. TIME TO CHANGE THE SUBJECT... DID I ASK YOU ABOUT MUSICAL INFLUENCES YET?

MARC: Nope.

SKRATCH: SO THEN, WHAT ARE YOUR MUSICAL INFLUENCES?

MARC: Descendents/ ALL, Ramones, The Cure, The Police, Blink 182, cheesy but they are a rad band, Green Day, Screeching Weasel, Rush, Van Halen.

SKRATCH: YOU KNOW I SAW THIS THING ON VH1 THAT SAID THE POLICE NEVER GOT ALONG BUT MADE GREAT MUSIC. HOW DO YOU GET ALONG WITH THE REST OF NUCLEAR SATURDAY?

MARC: We are all best friends. Tom and I have been friends for like 13 years or something, so now all we do is fight like brothers, but other than that we are all great great friends.

SKRATCH: WHAT ELSE DO YOU DO BESIDES PLAY IN NUCLEAR SATURDAY?

MARC: I record and produce bands. I have a recording studio.

MARC: Please do.

SKRATCH: I'LL BRING YOU AN OZZY TAPE WHEN YOU GUYS PLAY IN L.A. SO IF YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THE OSBOURNES AND YOU DON'T HAVE CABLE, WHAT DO YOU DO FOR ENTERTAINMENT? LIKE WHEN YOU'RE BORED AND AT HOME?

MARC: I play guitar. That's all I do. I'm a loser.

SKRATCH: HOW MANY HOURS A DAY?

MARC: A lot.

SKRATCH: HOW MANY?

MARC: I used to play almost 8 to 12. Now it's like 4 to 6. I was a music major, so I had to.

SKRATCH: WHAT SCHOOL?

MARC: I did the Berkley program, you know GIT out there in California. It's that sister school. I did their program.

SKRATCH: NOT THAT I KNOW THAT MUCH ABOUT IT, BUT WHAT KIND OF EQUIPMENT DO YOU HAVE?

MARC: I play a Fender American Strat, black with a black pick guard, white knobs, white toggle switch with a Seymour Duncan Hot Rail in the bridge and a 93 Gibson Les Paul Classic with a Marshall JCM 2000 head through a 2x12 Mesa Boogie half open half close cabinet. I want to play all Mesa stuff though. They rule.

SKRATCH: IF I'M GOING TO BRING YOU AN OZZY TAPE WHEN I SEE YOU GUYS PLAY, WHAT SHOULD OTHER FANS BRING YOU AND THE REST OF THE GUYS, IF THEY WANTED TO?

MARC: They could bring cards for my mom, like Hallmark ones. She loves cards and I love her.

SKRATCH: AWW... HOW CUTE. WHAT ABOUT FOR THE REST OF THE GUYS?

MARC: Jason would most likely like book bags. He talked some girl into giving him her Powerpuff Girl book bag. Jace, not sure. Tom would like money or any CD. He has the biggest and widest collection. He's a music snob.

SKRATCH: NOW IF YOUR MOM GETS CARDS FROM FANS, YOU HAVE TO TELL HER IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF THIS ARTICLE.

MARC: Yes. She will read this article if you guys send us copies. My mom asked me a couple weeks ago about the band cause we've been doing really well lately with a ton of major label interest. So she asked me about money and stuff and I told her I was going to blow it all on whores and coke to snort off their tits. So she started laughing and told me to wash my mouth out with soap. She rules.

SKRATCH: SHE DOES SOUND REALLY COOL. DOES SHE GO TO A LOT OF YOUR SHOWS?

MARC: No, she lives in South Carolina. But if she could she would. I'd give her a tambourine and let her come up on stage.

SKRATCH: YOU COULD GET ONE OF THE STAR-SHAPED ONES. THOSE ARE THE COOLEST TAMBOURINES EVER.

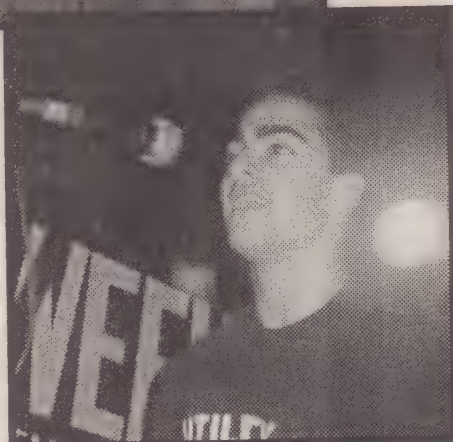
MARC: I agree. I heart stars.

SKRATCH: CLOSING COMMENTS?

MARC: Everyone rocks, so buy our record!

Nuclear Saturday's new CD "A Cinderella Story" is out now. They will also be on an Airwalk Shoes compilation for Foot Action stores and on a comp called "Out of The Blue" on Roscoe out of Florida. For tour dates and more band info, visit the Silent Records website, www.SRandE.com.

NEVER Heard Of It



NHOI
Interview
By: Jill King

The band, Never Heard Of It, are 5 guys that make up your typical SoCal pop punk band, with personality. One Friday night, while interviewing them at their going away party, I learned two new things:

1. If you are a band member, you may not want to drink before an interview, you just might say things you regret! (baahaa)
 2. If you don't know the answer to any question, the response, 'Never heard of it,' is an answer all to itself.
- Question: 'What is the capital of California?'
Answer: 'Never Heard Of It!'

Band Members:
DJ: Vocals
Jeff: Guitar
Nate: Guitar
Johnny: Bass player
CHRIS: Drummer

SKRATCH: YOU GUYS READY FOR THIS TOUR?

DJ: Do you want to hear all the bad things that have happened to us this week?

SKRATCH: GO AHEAD.

JEFF: The van. We took it in to get the oil changed, and it turned out that its leaking coolant, so we had to leave it in there, had to cancel a show in Bakersfield, had to drive up two different cars to get to Valencia and borrow another bands equipment. Today we don't even know if we're going to leave on time tomorrow to go on tour because our van

went to pick up our CDs last Thursday, they weren't ready until Friday.- today at 5. So we get there at 5, and they weren't ready until 7:45. So we've had a long day.

DJ: Our first tour was in our eleven seater van. No trailer, 6 people, all the equipment, all the merch just suffering. Our next tour had a trailer, a pretty nice trailer, so we had a little legroom. Now our next tour coming up...not only do we have a TV, but we have a VCR, Play Station II, and DVD. We have a huge fucking trailer.

SKRATCH: WHO WRITES THE SONGS?

JEFF: DJ and I write the songs pretty much.

SKRATCH: ARE THEY TRUE STORIES, OR WHAT?

JEFF: They are inspired by true sto-

still might not be ready. We

more serious and dropped the goofing around stuff.

SKRATCH: ON YOUR ONE SONG, "WASTE OF TIME," YOU GUYS, (THIS IS WHAT I TOOK FROM IT) STATED THAT YOU DON'T WANT TO WRITE ABOUT SOCIAL OR POLITICAL LYRICS.

JEFF: That's cool that you say that because a lot of our songs, a lot of people get a lot of different ideas, and that's sort of what we were going through with this last album. The first two albums we put out were all personal experiences and were funny. We were straight to the point and you knew exactly what we were talking about. But the third album, I wanted to be...

DJ: Drive your own meanings from it.
JOHNNY: Ambiguous.

JEFF: Yeah, be ambiguous. And I love the fact that people get all these different meanings from it. So it wasn't just personal experiences, but more of less. I gathered all these other experiences and other relationships that were going on, and trying to tie them into songs.

SKRATCH: YOU GUYS WERE SAYING ON YOUR WEBSITE THAT YOU WERE NOT COMPLETELY SATISFIED WITH YOUR PAST ALBUMS, AND THAT ON YOUR NEXT ALBUM, YOU WANTED IT TO BE MORE SERIOUS AND MEANINGFUL.

DJ: That was pertaining to the last two albums. We sort of wanted to make a new start; a new beginning. We wanted to erase the past. On the last two CDs, we put out, more or less, we were just finding ourselves. We had a different drummer. We had different band members. We were never really into it to be serious. We were just messing around. And we sort of all matured and grew as a band and we sort of realized that. I look back and our old CDs and a lot of people like it, but I think, 'Why would someone write a song like that, that's stupid.' I think that we've all matured so much that we're on a different level.

JEFF: We went into the studio and recorded some songs. Didn't even know how to record. Turns out, two albums later, we sold 7,000 copies of

ries. We used to write songs about people in our hometown (some people were dicks, some people were sluts). But that was a few years ago. That's how we started out. We've gotten a lot

NEVER HEARD OF IT

"The ambulance comes and next thing you know, Johnny is off in a stretcher. He's in the hospital with IV's."

our
two
CDs.

we were boxing in the backyard, and our roady is shadow boxing. Johnny wasn't really looking as our roady is shadow boxing and with a full on right hook, clips Johnny in the back of the head, knocking him out. Johnny wakes up. To make a long story short... all of a sudden he can't see and he starts freaking out in front of the girls that think we're so cool. JOHNNY: Fire engines, fire trucks. JEFF: The ambulance comes and next thing you know, Johnny is off in a stretcher. He's in the hospital with IV's. 20 minutes later he's fine (Laughter).

Couldn't believe it. Had probably the worst live show you've ever seen, but we still had fans and everything else, and we went on tour. We did a 35 day US tour and it wasn't until the last few shows that we started focusing and getting down and really maturing.

SKRATCH: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OLD DRUMMER?

CHRIS: You hear different things from different people. The bottom-line, the commitment towards the band. Everybody had it except the old drummer. And they just kind of asked me one day to fill in for Dereck, because it just wasn't working out. We [NHOI] were getting ready to go on tour, to go into the studio. I was in another band called The Gigs and NHOI was like, 'Can you help us out?' and they have hooked us [The Gigs] up with so many shows, it was the least I could do! After two shows [playing with NHOI], I realized that these guys are at the commitment level I needed. I've been playing music since I was really young. Honestly, if I told you, you would be kind of scared. I was one of those weird kids that force you into music... it's been that long.

SKRATCH: HAVE YOU EVER PLAYED THE GAME GUESS THE DRUMMER?

CHRIS: No, never.

SKRATCH: DO YOU KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT?

CHRIS: No.

SKRATCH: IT'S WHEN YOU TRY TO GUESS WHO THE DRUMMER OFF OF A CD COVER IS.

CHRIS: Did you play that with our CD? Did you guess me?

SKRATCH: NO. YOUR NAMES AND WHAT YOU PLAY ARE LABELED ON THE BOTTOM. BUT I WOULD NEVER GUESS THAT YOU WERE THE DRUMMER.

CHRIS: Most people would never suspect me of being a drummer. A lot of drummers will walk around with a mullet and a Ludwig sticker on the back of their truck, and they always tap their fingers, to make a point that they are a drummer. But, I don't know why, but most people are so extremely, incredibly surprised that I play drums.

(Laughter)

SKRATCH: ANY CRAZY STORIES FROM LAST TOUR?

JEFF: A good one was when Johnny got shifted on.

SKRATCH: WHAT? SHIFTED ON? (LAUGHTER)

JEFF: No, no, that has double meaning. Our roady brought boxing gloves and so we would box every once in awhile. One day we were in Fort Ladle, we partied with these people the night before. They thought we were this cool band from California, so

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THE ACCIDENTS

THE
ACCIDENTS
By: Mark Whittaker

You don't know this band. Do you? Probably not. But take heed gentle punk rock magazine reader...you heard about these guys here first! The Accidents are five guys from Colorado who play a psychotic arrangement of hardcore, ska and general overt amusement park mayhem done with a tongue firmly planted in the cheek. It's not so much the sound they convey, but the humor and attitude to go along with it. Think about your favorite punk band that dips into the quick steps of ska who would sit down with you after the show and enjoy a few beers before asking to crash at your place for a while. Their 3-song demo was sent to me a while ago and it is a fine mix (but not really mixed at all!) of the before mentioned styles, done to a crispy cream perfection while still leaving enough room to come up and actually develop into a full blown headlining touring money making juggernaut. But don't tell them that. When I spoke to James (drums), Brent (guitar), Eric (sax) and Doug (bass) about their youthful inclination towards the music scene and the possibility of gaining fame, they let loose on me as only a mirth filled band with nothing to lose but tangle with the lowly journalist should. Like any other young and still in the garage band, these guys were pretty wide eyed about the future of not only themselves but The Accidents as well. Plus they were funny as hell. With an upcoming tour, a full length on the way and a never-ending barrage of quips and homage to whoever wrote the theme song to Three's Company, I see a totally bright future. But remember kids...you heard it here first!

SKRATCH: WHAT'S THE WORST ACCIDENT YOU EVER SAW?

JAMES: I was standing outside of 7-11 in a bad part of town when I saw

this
old 1964
Chevy
Nova crash
into a burn-
ing dumpster.

I dropped my Slurpee(onto the pavement. Across the street was a church, and nuns started running out to help the amputee midget driving the crashed Nova. Yeah. Then they all got smashed by a bus and I didn't even get a refund for my Slurpee(.
BRENT: I was sitting at a stoplight near my old apartment when I saw a guy in a truck get hit while driving through the intersection. His truck flew sideways through the air and smashed into a light pole, then dropped back down to the ground.
ERIC: I saw an ambulance hit some guy once then keep on driving. That was pretty raw.

SKRATCH: EVER BEEN A PART OF AN ACCIDENT?

DOUG: I've been in lots. Our old trumpet player tried to go into a show after he screwed his girlfriend in some field by an elementary school (read into that how you will...) but he forgot to mop the 'ole jizm and that to me qualifies as an accident following subcategory 1.4 of paragraph 8 describing bodily fluids displayed unintentionally in the Dickey Ass Shit Proposition of 1812.

SKRATCH: DO HUMANS CREATE THEIR OWN ACCIDENTS OR IS THIS ALL BY CHANCE?

JAMES: Yes.
DOUG: Well we almost led this trucker to his doom on our way out of a show in Grand Junction. We were at a rest area and saw these cow trailers, so, of course, the only thing that could possibly pop into a good citizen's head is to drive between

the trailers and scream at the top of our lungs while honking and revving the engine to start a stampede. Jethro, or whatever the fuck, didn't like it much and chased us down I-70 for miles at like 90, which is fucking fast for the Rockies. Seriously, it was like some easy rider shit.

SKRATCH: IS PUNK INDEED DEAD?

BRENT: Yes.

ERIC: Yes.

JAMES: What's Punk?

DOUG: Yeah... That's why we play it.

SKRATCH: WHAT IS YOUR TAKE ON THE FATE OF MODERN MUSIC?

JAMES: "Popular" modern music is garbage. It has no meaning except to try and get some tang. And as far as the scene is concerned, chicken potpie mother fuck! Actually, the Colorado scene is weak. There is too much competition between genres and bands in general.

DOUG: Excuse me I happen to think poon-tang is great.

ERIC: I like new wave.

SKRATCH! HOW IMPORTANT IS IT FOR YOU TO REMAIN "OUT OF TOUCH" AND NON-DIGITAL?

ERIC: I think we should have six DJ's and glowing guitar picks.

DOUG: I even had a hard time agreeing to double track the guitars and horns when we recorded. I hate bull-shit, I mean, I don't like popping in a 3 piece band's CD and hearing eight different fucking guitars playing Maliguenia in background while the singer is chanting 8 different things at the same time in the end of the song.

It's shit like that which is killing rock and roll, but I'm hard pressed to find anyone that agrees with me on that.

SKRATCH: WHAT IS YOUR THOUGHT ON BANDS THAT DO THIS?

JAMES: If you depend on an editor to compose sound clips of your band to make you look better, well...then fuck you.

SKRATCH: SO WHAT'S WITH THE HORN SECTION?

JAMES: Well, Eric offers blow jobs if we let him stay in the band. And Mike. And Ike.

ERIC: Yeah...oh wait.

SKRATCH: SO WHEN IS THE FIRST FULL-LENGTH ALBUM COMING OUT?

ERIC: After we break up.

DOUG: Actually Eric, we're going to kill you and make it to look like a Seattle suicide so we can all get money and ho's. Seriously though, we plan on having an LP finished before we tour the West Coast this June.

SKRATCH: HAVE YOU GOTTEN ANY REACTIONS FROM THE CURRENT EP?

ERIC: Eh...

JAMES: Boo!

BRENT: No comment.

DOUG: Actually I've been into pornography since age five or so, not just fifteen.

SKRATCH: YOU THINK THE "DIY" APPROACH TO DOING MUSIC IS THE ONLY WAY?

JAMES: DIY...a term that gets thrown around all to often. I don't have a problem if someone likes our music and wants to distribute it for us, but only if it's about music, not the money. No contracts, blah blah blah. This is unrealistic and is never going to happen, so yes. DIY is the only way. Steal or pay for all the

I think we should have six DJ's and glowing guitar picks.

shit you need.

SKRATCH: TELL ME ABOUT THE FORMATION OF THE ACCIDENTS.
ERIC: I remember how I met Doug in High school. He said that he had candy at his house if I would come over and "blow my horn". I was young and went over there and boy was I wrong... Wait, I don't even know how I met these fucks!
JAMES: We are like Voltron. We didn't find "The Accidents"...The Accidents found us.
DOUG: I'm the veiny purple lion that forms the dick.
JAMES: Word.

SKRATCH: WHAT WERE YOU GUYS DOING BEFORE THE BAND?
BRENT: Corporate whore.
JAMES: Corporate gigolo.
ERIC: Jerkaholic.
DOUG: I grew up in trailer parks mostly: Wyoming, Texas, New Mexico and a grip of other places. It was the restaurant chain equivalent to a military brat. Ended up as a corporate whore bartender before I snapped in the middle of one of my shifts after hearing "Piano Man" by Billy Joel come on the DMX in the bar followed immediately by "Money For Nothing" and "Juke Box Hero"... combined with suddenly finding my Op Ivy Energy CD the next day (which I lost in a different town), I took it all as a sign from Iggy Pop that I was to walk out of my shift and start a band. And I did.

SKRATCH: WELL WHAT ABOUT NOW? ANY JOBS, HOBBIES, RELIGIOUS FANATICISM?
DOUG: I work to pay for tours by swiping as much from the drawer as possible in a bar at the airport.
JAMES: I have a chin fetish, and I work at Pizza Hut to pay for the tour. 80% of all people working in pizza chains smoke marijuana.
ERIC: I do upholstery.
BRENT: I'm a Texa-ho!

SKRATCH: SO HOW DID THE FIRST SHOW COME ABOUT?
JAMES: I used to be in another punk band, Caught Cheating, before The Accidents and I met this guy who booked shows for us and promoted them. I hit him up to get a show booked and he had one lined up in like 2 days. We scared everyone and he never called us again.
DOUG: Yeah, we had an agreement not to cuss or swear or whip anything out... which of course we honored.
JAMES: For at least five minutes.

SKRATCH: UM...ANY GROUPIES YET?
ERIC: On the Internet.
DOUG: I swear she said she was at least... no actually. I haven't even had sex yet. Is there a way to get this interview filed with a county clerk in California?

SKRATCH: WHERE DOES THE ANGST COME FROM?

DOUG: Seeing fucking big-eared dumbasses getting put into office even though they lost the fucking election. Then seeing a bunch of morons rally behind his inbred ass because some phantom who OF COURSE we can never actually catch (kinda like Clark Kent and Superman) was conjured to justify a disgusting violent act in September that was covered up because a few CIA members could get caught making money off of the stocks. Shit like that.
JAMES: I have slits in my head that are supposed to be eyes. Why wouldn't I be fucking angry?
BRENT: We don't actually have any angst; we just pretend to be pissed off because it looks more punk.

SKRATCH: IS SUBURBAN FLIGHT THE BEST FODDER FOR PUNK OR IS IT JUST A SOUL IN NEED OF ATTENTION?
DOUG: It's a fact that almost every punk you'll meet came from the suburbs in one way or another. I think a lot of kids are too intelligent to fit in. I remem-

ber in junior high if I didn't remember to tailor my jokes down to Forrest Gump level no one would get them. After awhile people go out of their way to be freaks, and then end up as punks. When someone calls it overcompensating, they're probably right, but it beats the hell out of being some Old Navy wearing tool that watches the news without laughing their asses off at the shit they're told to believe.

SKRATCH: SO WHAT IS THERE TO DO IN AURORA, CO?
JAMES: Nothing. That's why we are in a ska band and we scream at cow trailers.

SKRATCH: YOUR SOUND IS PRETTY MUCH SOCAL HARDCORE/SKA.
DOUG: We've been called "Industrial Jazz" by some crazy old man, and we're gonna stick with that 'cause it makes us sound smart.
ERIC: I like to think of it as "waltz core".
JAMES: Is SoCal Spanish or something?

SKRATCH: IS WEALTH A ROADBLOCK OR NECESSITY TO HAPPINESS?
DOUG: I think it doesn't matter, 'cause you never have enough. If you got more loot you just buy more expensive shit. Unless you're MC Hammer, in which case you think the tooth fairy brought it to you and then when it's gone 'cause you were trying to trade it for Pokemon cards, you sue the government because it didn't have a warning label...from a very small cheap apartment.

SKRATCH: SO WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE ACCIDENTS?
ERIC: We're gonna tour the West Coast this summer and break a bunch of shit. We should be in California for the first couple weeks in June. Stay tuned to www.theaccidents.org for further details!
JAMES: We've got a double Split 7" coming out with Special Ed in a couple months, and our LP which will be with us when we tour.

SKRATCH: WHAT IS MANKIND'S GREATEST INVENTION: THE WHEEL OR BEER?
ERIC: Porn.
BRENT: Internet porn actually.
DOUG: If we did not have beer, when would guys get drunk enough to think they might get laid? So why would we need wheels?

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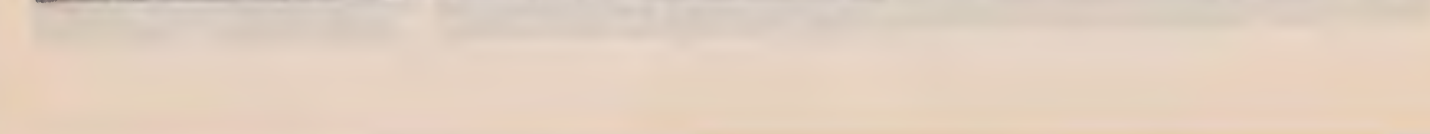
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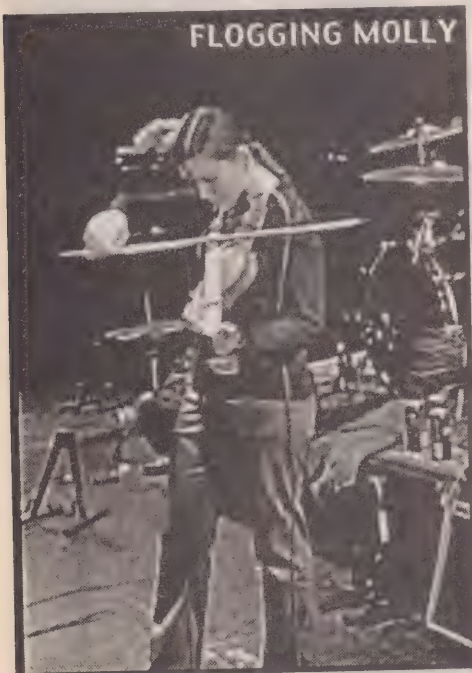
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Flogging Molly The Slackers Jackass

March 19, 2002 @ the Ventura Theater
Text and Photos by: Mark A. Whitaker

Falling just two days after St. Patrick's day, it was fitting that Flogging Molly played the theater in support of their latest album, *Drunken Lullabies*. I was glad to see them play in Ventura again since I really enjoy their music and they are a lot of fun to watch. I had seen them play once before at the Ventura Theater and was really hooked on their music. It reminds me of the Pogues. Not that I am that familiar with them but I heard a Pogues CD and it was really weird because it sounded like Flogging Molly but I know Dave King's voice and that wasn't Dave King. My curiosity was driving me nuts because this band was really good but I just couldn't place them. I finally asked someone at the record store and found out that the record



was a rare Pogues CD. They only had one and I couldn't have it. Darn. Anyway back



to Flogging Molly, I became interested in them after I found out that Matt Hensly played the accordion for them. After their first show in Ventura I talked to him briefly and he was a really cool guy, from then on, I was a fan for life.

Openings up for Flogging Molly were JackAss and the Slackers. JackAss is a local rock band that I have heard a lot of good things about, so I was glad to see them play and to see what they sounded like for myself. I wasn't disappointed. Their sound is sort of a country, rockabilly and rock 'n' roll mix. The local crowd was enjoying these guys perform as many in the crowd were calmly dancing and grooving to the music. They played a really good set. The best part, aside from the singer's shirt that said Rock 'N' Roll mother fucker, was they did a Backstreet Boys cover! I could not believe it. How funny was that someone actually covering a song by the Backstreet Boys. That did it for me. I think I'm going to have to see more of their shows to see what other surprises they might have up their sleeve. Who knows what they might do next, an "Oops I Did It Again" cover?

The Slackers performed next, and as I was trying to figure out what they would sound like, I noticed their banner had Rastafarian colors (red, yellow and green), which are also the colors of the Jamaican flag. Who says history isn't important? After they played a couple of songs, I decided that they were a reggae/rock band. I even wrote it down on a little note pad I have for notes on shows. That's when I realized how silly that was. Rock/reggae = ska, duh! The Slackers had a good following. It was a mellow show with everyone having a good time dancing to the beat. The singer proclaimed that this was some "Blunt Smoking Music." I didn't see any blunts being fired up, it seems everybody must have forgot and smoked their blunts before they came

to the show. Their music reminds me of Sublime but these guys are more Irish. The best part of their performance was when the sax and trumpet player jumped into the pit and finished their set in there as a finale.

Apparently there was some misunderstanding because JackAss felt that their set had been cut short and left. I am not sure what the problem was, because Flogging Molly thanked both JackAss and the Slackers for playing. Flogging Molly was in top form playing its blend of Guinness infused Celtic punk.



I was glad to see them play again because I missed them play at the Warped Tour, due to the confusion of trying to figure out the stages. Flogging Molly is definitely a band to see live because of all the energy they put out. All their songs are fast and catchy. Flogging Molly also remind me of the Drop Kick Murphys because on *Rebels of the Sacred Heart*, Bridget Regan, trades her fiddle in for a tin whistle, although it doesn't sound as eerie as the Drop Kick Murphys song. I think this is because Flogging Molly isn't a heavy band like the Drop Kick Murphys. As usual, Dave King's voice rang loud and clear, as the band played song after song to the delight of the crowd. No fights either, so that's always a plus. After the show, I spoke briefly with the members of Flogging Molly and thanked them for an excellent performance. They were very nice and thanked me for coming out. Flogging Molly will be playing the Warped Tour so go by and watch them play you might be surprised at how fast you'll like them.

MOTORHEAD IDIOT SAVANT KAPTIN KRUNCH

April 7, 2002 @ the Ventura theater
Text and photos by: Mark A. Whitaker

Touring in support of their new album, *Hammered*, Motörhead made its first stop of the tour at the Majestic Ventura Theater on April 7, 2002. That night, the theater was truly majestic because Motörhead was not going to be back in California until the end of their tour. I'll admit that I was not a Motörhead fan since day one. Most die hard Motörhead fans will probably hate me for saying this but my first exposure to Motörhead was on Tony Hawk Pro Skater 2. That was when I heard "Ace of Spades." This show proved to me what was lacking in all those lame New metal bands, It's called originality.



I was really excited about going to see Motörhead play live in Ventura on the first stop of their tour. I couldn't believe how amazing this was. When I arrived at the theater to pick up my media pass for the show, I got the news that made this the hardest assignment I have ever shot in my brief career as a photographer for SKRATCH, I was told there

were three rules to follow.

Rule No. 1. No backstage access at all (no problem I was used to that).

Rule No. 2. Only three songs (no problem I was used to that too).

Rule No. 3. No flash photography (problem, this isn't a sunny outdoors concert).



I thought about it and realized that it wasn't an impossible situation. I had shot concerts there before, without flash as an experiment and the results had been good so I wasn't worried. The only question was color or black and white film, I chose B&W T-Max 400 pushed to 800 for more exposure and to be able to use faster shutter speeds.

I didn't get to see Kaptin Krunch play because I was at a benefit show for the Cruz family whose mother was sick in Portugal. By the time I got into the theater, the only band left to play was Idiot Savant. I had seen them play before and was curious to see how they would sound now that they had a singer. I think they sounded pretty good with their new singer. They are more of a hard rock band now, than they were before, but they played well. Their singer was running around all over the stage screaming and yelling into his mike. They have a lot of energy and play with a lot of heart. So watch out as they rock your world with their tight snappy bass lines and lightning fast guitar riffs that would make Metallica proud. (And you thought I was going to say Slayer.)

After Idiot Savant finished their set and had cleared their equipment no one was allowed backstage except for the road crew for Motörhead and a few special guests. Security was tighter here than some airports. In case you didn't know what was in store for you, Motörhead holds the Guinness Book of World record for the loudest rock band. They are militant and proud of their record and no one tells them to turn it down! Sound level too loud for you? That's tough because Motörhead doesn't care, so the theater had a disclaimer outside the door stating excessive noise levels and that the artist controlled the sound level. How loud was it? Well, let me put it this way: The stage setup was incredible, on either side of the drum riser were three full stacks. It was going to be loud all right. As the lights dimmed, shouts of "Lemmy is god" rang throughout the theater.

Then it happened. Motörhead walked down the stairs and took the stage. By this time, the crowd was hysterical, screaming and yelling their undying devotion to Motörhead.

They had not even played one note and I could feel the energy just building as soon as they opened with "We are Motörhead" everyone was yelling and going nuts. I didn't really look at the crowd because I was busy shooting photos but I could just tell they were so amped to have Motörhead there. I was shaking. It was so awesome seeing them play live, and I could not believe it.

The energy they put out was so overwhelming. Lemmy would walk from the mike towards center stage playing so casual but with the confidence of many years playing live for the fans. I think Lemmy was just as excited playing, as the crowd was to be there. Phil Campbell was rocking too, and occasionally he and Lemmy would meet in the middle of the stage and play a heavy metal duet. It was a beautiful sight. Motörhead played an excellent mix of old classics such as "Ace of Spades," one of their best songs and songs off their newest album, *Hammered*. I saw a lot of old school Hessians there rocking out and having the time of their life. I was a little disappointed though because the theater was kind of empty, but it didn't matter, because the people there were there for only one reason and that reason was Motörhead. Thanks Motörhead for choosing Ventura as your first stop of your *Hammered* tour.

Pennywise Western Waste Too Rude Afterthought

April 18, 2002 @ Key Club, LA
Text and Photos by Shay

This was a very special gig to showcase the newly formed record label launched from a company that's specialized in footwear for many light years - Vans! Though it may not be the first time an apparel manufacturer ventured over to the dark side with music, punk music nevertheless, it still is certainly a damn

cool and exciting doorway into beautiful possibilities. Thumbs up to everyone involved!

As I made my way across the street towards the Key Club on Sunset, there was still a mad, cursing mob outside which led me to believe wild concocted fantasies of show delays and closed venue doors. To my surprise I learned the show was already in full throttle and all these lilly-tailed, boobie-punks were left-overs from an already peek capacity. They shut down the guest list as well and Big Billy Bob at the door with his brother, Zeus the Destroyer, had strict orders not to let anyone else in.

Oh, Ebenezer! This was a tiny obstacle I needed to overcome for I, a Skratz Reviewer, needed to order up some Skratz ingenuity in order to bring you top-of-the-line music news. Now, I'm no Kurt Loder, but I am tattooed-white-trash with a need for the brew-ha in my veins! Set course for Plan A of Operation Punk-Down!

I quickly spotted two older dames wearing VIP wristbands darting out of the club and heading down the Sunset sidewalk. I jumped at my chance, flashed a few moves that got me expelled from 9th grade swim class, and next thing you know, Billy Bob's eyeing up my shiny, stretched-out purple wristband.

Damn, it was packed, sweaty, physical, and loud. It was a fuckin' rock show and I was still wearing pants! Good times to come.....

After all the delays getting in and situated for my breathtaking picture capabilities and musical comprehension (SAT score total: 462 combined), Afterthought was sadly buried in a shallow pan of what was past. Listening back to a few cuts off their CD, they combine brutal hardcore drummage with very melodic vocals as shown on their cut, "Beautiful Hatred."

Next up, Too Rude. These guys are punk and reggae, which also translates into politically and socially conscious topics which a majority of their songs covered. They put on a good show and interacted well with the crowd (this is a staple line in any review. See Music Reviews 101 in your local junior college program). They reminded me of a more straight-

forward Sublime if Dexter Poindexter was fronting them. They were a nice compliment to the other punk bands on the bill and gave the dudes and their boob sweating girly-girls a chance to get down and groove to the thick rhythms they blasted out. The song, "Too rude for my own good," left a hearty impression on my empty stomach.



A band taking their sound straight out of the punk rock wall is Western Waste. With melodic chanting choruses and bombastic power-driven verses, this band got the packed crowd wound-up. I have to admit their

young; pretty-boy looks had me thinking these guys passed on Image. But, when they roared into a Misfits cover of 20 Eyes, the place went berserk. Even I cringed at first thinking, "oh boy, don't fuck this one up!#\$%". To my surprise and gratitude, they tore it up. I had to get myself another drink!

The special surprise and highlight of the evening was due. The deadlines were made and Pennywise took the stage. This was definitely their show and their crowd. The good 'old boys waltzed onstage and let it rip in fun fashion. They covered songs from Ramones to Blackflag to Ozzy (Okay, not Ozzy. But, you never know!), as well as taking requests from the fans and pummeling thru some Pennywise classics. A bit of spontaneity thrown in when they pulled a skinny kid onstage to sing the Ramones "Rock'n Roll a Go-Go." The kid took off and went ape-shit and the crowd loved it.

Pennywise had the stage littered with their special hommies taking part in the good fun. Some huge King-Kong Bundy look-a-like was a centerpiece for the stage diving and onstage antics. It was all fun in the kingdom and everybody was grinning ear to ear. Hey, it's still a punk show! Don't worry, final chapter. Jimmy invites everybody onstage and what was once a capacity floor turned into a dangerous moshing, malay on-center stage. Bodies thrown everywhere! Girls ripping their tiny tees! Tattooed terrorizers grappling with security! People losing their pants! Losing their minds! Yes, this is what it's all about! The chaos! The disorder! The music crushing our skulls! Amps crashing to the floor! My girlfriend getting "porked" on stage left, and liking it! Oh, the mutiny! Oh the horror! Oh, the gods of Pennywise! More! More! More!

This was my first time seeing Pennywise and I must say they truly garner my sincere respect. The Key Club had fun wiping the floor with some straggling punkers but no doubt, they all left with huge smiles plastered on their faces. Good shit!



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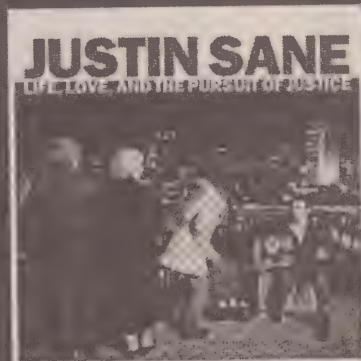
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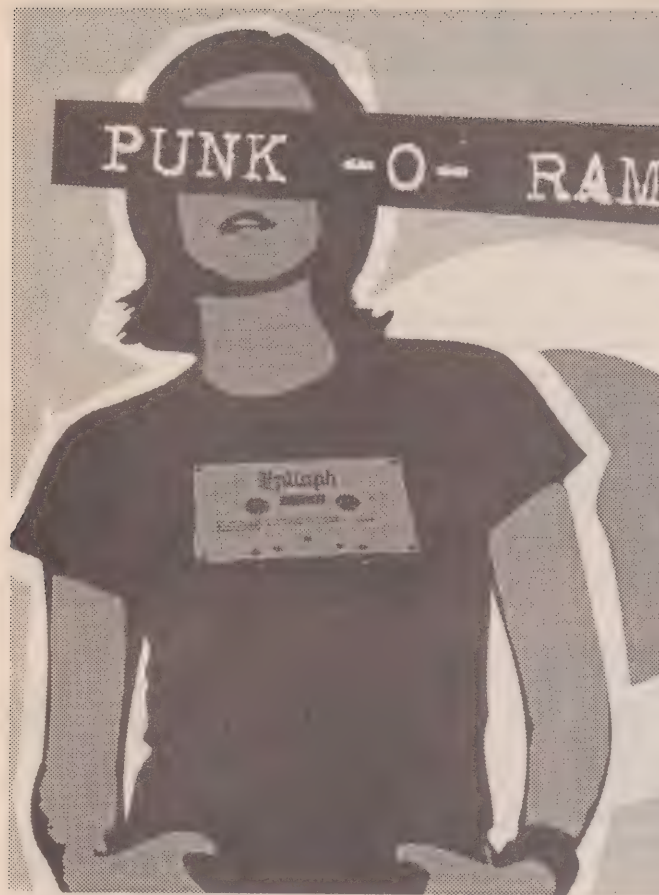


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7

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- Hot Water Music
- Pennywise
- 1208
- Division Of Laura Lee
- NOFX
- Randy
- Pulley
- Bouncing Souls
- Dropkick Murphys
- Bad Religion
- The (International) Noise Conspiracy
- Deviates
- Rancid
- Death By Stereo
- Agnostic Front
- 98 Mute
- Guttermouth

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Fall Silent

FALL SILENT - *Drunken Violence* >REV189 ★ CD - 04.23.02



REVELATION 100

REVELATION 100: A 15 Year Retrospective...
REV100 ★ CD/2xLP - 05.07.02
A fifteen year retrospective of rare and unreleased recordings from Rev's history, including material from bands that helped define the late 80's hardcore sound, as well as tracks from present bands that continue to push the boundaries of hardcore, indie and punk.



PITCH BLACK: 5/7

PITCH BLACK: 5/7
REV113 ★ CD/LP - 07.02.02
From the bowels of the East Bay scene comes Pitch Black. Derived from ex-Nerve Agents, Screw 32 and Stressboy members, this fast, hardcore-punk outfit strikes with a horrifying edge... and a modern sound.



CURLUPANDDIE

CURLUPANDDIE - *Unfortunately We're Not Robots* >REV107 ★ CD/LP - 05.07.02



DAG NASTY: Minority Of One

DAG NASTY: *Minority Of One*
REV111 ★ CD/LP - 07.23.02
These D.C. legends return with their first and finest record in ten years. Featuring Dave Smalley on vocals, Brian Baker on guitar, Colin Sears on drums and Roger Marbury on bass, this dynamic line up has created an album on par with the classic "Can I Say" record, while moving forward with a mature, yet energetic attitude.

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old, wrinkly people bathing are fun to peek on.



GRAND MAGUS GRAND MAGUS RISE ABOVE RECORDS

The album is black with a gothic typeface. Two members of this "doom-blues power" trio look like Rob Zombie and the third looks like a skinhead with an Amish beard. Much like the Europeans you see at Disneyland in striped pants and clogs, you somehow sense that these people aren't from around here. In the case of Grand Magus, it appears some evil genius time-warped them from the late '70s, pumped them full of goth imagery and sent them out on tour, or maybe they're just Swedish. This debut album sounds more like Ten

Years After, Blackmore's Rainbow, and Mahogany Rush than anything that has been produced in the last 20 years. The hell of it is that this stuff still sounds great. I'm sure somebody somewhere is into something they call "doom-blues power" rock, but for all intents and purposes this is just good, long-haired rock 'n' roll. The vocalist can scream with the best of them and the blues guitar riffs truly rip. If you have to dress this stuff up in bats and vampires to sell it, so be it. But for my money, this band beats the crap out of all the Halloween hellraisers out there.

-DUG



NEUROBOX EVE SELF RELEASED CD

In the vein of bands such as System of A Down and Tool, Queens NY stalwarts Neurobox outdo themselves with a groundbreaking and breathtaking display of musical mastery on their latest collection EVE. Dispersing disturbing spoken word interludes ("The Gibbering Mr. Success") in between their jarring brand of confrontational, aggressive edged musings ("Toy") helps Neurobox set an eerie tone, accentuated by a psychotically delicious vocal display that meshes Mike Patton and Serj Tanakian. Nightmarish at times ("Boeing '93"), progressive at others ("CPR"), Neurobox works your nervous system well, knowing how to implement horror film shock and suspense via song a la Hitchcock into their guitar driven metal assault ("NYC"). Not only can this band set a tone, but they also present good musical movement, bounding from blast beat death metal to punk crooning ("Ocho The Lovebud"), usually all within the course of a song. While few may dismiss Neurobox as being a bit too similar to the aforementioned trendy alt metal scene's showcase bands, one won't deny this band's innate creativity or insane musicality, both of which should help launch Neurobox's burgeoning career. (www.neuroboxmusic.com)

-Mike SOS



FALL SILENT DRUNKEN VIOLENCE REVELATION RECORDS

After forming in 1994, Fall Silent decided that political and ideological epicenters were far more important than the Benjamins. Hard to believe, you say? Hardcore/punk/metal bands don't normally sit well in corporate stomachs, so the powerhouse rants and 3-4 chord thumping located within Drunken Violence are believable at least, forming a spin of spit-in-your-face anger and typical, stomp motions (which make up every song on the album). Good for those Pantera/D.R.I. freaks.

-Darren Ratner



THE CODE ALERT AWARE INVOLVED A-F RECORDS

The CODE bridge the gap between OPERATION IVY and RANCID, combining elements of both projects yet not committing to either and taking a more aggressive hardcore punk paths to get their socially conscience lyrics across. Another great production job teamed with some great musicianship and just a hint of ANTI-FLAG style vocal harmonizing thrown in for good measure. Song after song I found myself simply impressed by their blazing guitar work and keen ear for melody in an overall aggressive song package. Thoughtful and

thought provoking without ever sounding prefabricated like many of today's current punk wannabe's. This appears to be a solid unit who intends to make a lot of noise and play by their own rules.

-Lugz



HAUJOBB PENETRATION METROPOLIS

Back in the days of vinyl, this might be considered to be that stalwart of industrial music, the 12" EP, except that it's a full length. The reason why I compare it to a 12" is the fact that there are no less than seven versions of the song "Penetration" with only three other songs. Now, "Penetration" happens to be cool song, so it works if you're into industrial music with a dreamy and tripped out feel to it. This is great music to dance to if you're on tranquilizers. If you like, you could compare it to a band like Ikon, if they had more of a slowed down

Front Line Assembly sound to the backing music. This fits very well onto the Metropolis label (the Philadelphia label that ignores Philly's underground industrial scene).

- Snotty Scotty

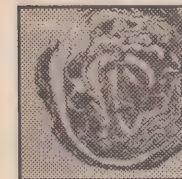


HOT ROD CIRCUIT SORRY ABOUT TOMMOROW VAGRANT RECORDS

Vagrant Records have been on a roll lately with releasing quality albums by bands that the bigger labels have overlooked. They've definitely struck gold, with the Connecticut based Hot Rod Circuit. HRC is a band that has paid it's dues and worked it's ass off for the past couple years. They're emo-rock in the way that only Vagrant can supply it. Solid, catchy, melodic, and technical are all words that describe this great emo-rock album. If you're a fan of bands like the Get Up Kids and Saves The Day, you should definitely pick this

album up. This is surely a release that will get you humming along in no time.

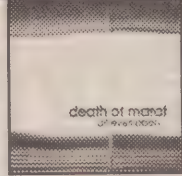
-ADF



PHALLUCY VALIUM BLACKLINER RECORDS

My mom always taught me that if I didn't have anything nice to say, then to not say anything at all. Instead of wasting my time telling you how monotonous and grating this disc is on my ears, and how annoying the lead singer's vocals are, I'll just stay quiet about it.

-Dane Jackson



DEATH OF MARAT ALL EYES OPEN STICK FIGURE RECORDS

Would all bands please just be more pretentious? OK, I take it back. Only be pretentious if you're smart enough to back it up. The debut full-length CD from the Phoenix-based trio, Death of Marat, is a real piece of work. Imagine Joy Division, Echo and the Bunnymen, and Victoria De Los Angeles all performing on Halloween in one of Mad Ludwig of Bavaria's castles. This is disturbing stuff. With elements of goth, hardcore, and prog rock floating through this CD, All Eyes

Open is the kind of music you really have to hear to appreciate. One thing is certain, this album won't have any radio hits and there won't be anyone humming this stuff in an elevator in 20 years. Put this on at high volume late at night when the party is winding down. You're sure to be known as the most hip and eclectic host in town. Either that, or they'll haul you off in a straightjacket. Death of Marat is the band that NIN and Marilyn "Mickey Mouse" Manson want to be. Give it a shot if you've got the guts.

-DUG



CONFLICT NOW YOU PUT YOUR FOOT IN IT GO-KART RECORDS

England's CONFLICT have built themselves up a solid reputation of being one super aggressive Punk powerhouse by releasing some of the best damned animal rights, politically fueled anarchy mayhem the world has ever known. This time out they give us two brand new slabs of raw energy English Anarchy Punk (Now You've Put Your Foot in It, From St. Paul's to St. Petersburg) that stays true to their original ideals. But the bonus is two live numbers recorded last year at CBGB's on their last American tour (These Things Take Time,

Climbing the Stairs), proving that they are far beyond competent in the studio as well as live, CONFLICT proves that with age comes wisdom. Possibly one band that will withstand the tests of time. Their music was important 20 years ago and still proves to be just as important in the 21st century.

-Lugz



SLICK SHOES SLICK SHOES TOOTH AND NAIL RECORDS

The fourth full-length release from this So Cal-based pop/punk outfit is another upbeat, hook-filled foray into the nebulous world of Christian punk. While they don't beat anybody over the head with scripture, they do write most of their songs in a way that they could be singing a song about a girl or a song about the really big Guy upstairs. The production by Neill King (Elvis Costello, Green Day) is first rate, though the band had to switch from their original producer halfway through the recording. It appears to have been a good move

as the album pops along a good clip. The songs do get a bit repetitious, but these guys make them work. Slick Shoes is willing to do benefits, write back to their fans, sign autographs and do all the other little things that separate them from egomaniacal rock stars. They're good guys with some very eclectic tastes. Check out their highly interactive Web site at www.slickshoes.net.

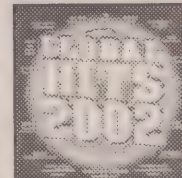
-DUG



EYES UPON SEPARATION I HOPE SHE'S HAVING NIGHTMARES UPRISING RECORDS

Rather than ponder why Eyes of Separation chose "Back to the Future" ("1.21 Gigawatts") and "Karate Kid" references ("It Must Be Take a Worm For A Walk Week") as song titles, there should be more importance stressed on the band's only impressive feature: when slow guitar rolls and actual, comprehensible words go hand in hand ("Murderer Came With A Smile"). Hold that sacred, because I Hope She's Having Nightmares is, generally, a blood curdling strain of overplayed hardcore — nothing more.

-Darren Ratner

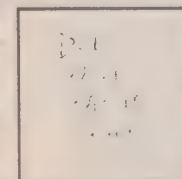


VARIOUS ARTISTS GLOBAL HITS 2002 UNIVERSAL

You might not hear these songs on the radio (unless you are in the vicinity of a dance music station) and you might not see these videos on M2 at anytime other than a later Friday night, but chances are that the songs on Global Hits 2002 will sound strangely familiar. A collection of 19 of the biggest international dance hits of the past year, this is the sort of compilation that provides the soundtrack for mid-day workouts at the local gym and late nights in clubs saturated with men in shiny button-down shirts and women in the weekend

warrior uniform of a Tarzan top and pants slung so low that thongs hang out of the top. Global Hits 2002 opens with the current club anthem "Rapture" from New York duo lio. Combining accessible dance beats with the husky vocals of Nadia, a 21-year-old former Versace employee from Queens, "Rapture" has not only become a staple within the Ibiza club scene, but has reached gold status in Europe and platinum status in Australia. A song-on-the-rise in the States, you have probably heard the infectious chorus "rapture tastes so sweet" blaring from surrounding cars while stuck in Friday night traffic. Hit after mega-hit are strung together throughout the compilation without relying on any DJ mixing, bringing together the funky "Starlight" from The Supreme Lovers (featuring Mani Hoffman) to the slick disco sounds of Modjo's "Lady (Hear Me Tonight)." Later on, even the staunchest music critic can't help but convulse to Daft Punk's "One More Time," the song that marked every major dance event of summer, 2001 or sing along with ATC's smash "Around the World (La La La La La)," which, coincidentally, is the most played song in German history. While Global Hits 2002 doesn't offer anything particularly new (if you go to dance clubs, you have probably heard these tracks frequently over the past year or so), it is the ultimate feel-good album for even the most closeted dance music fan.

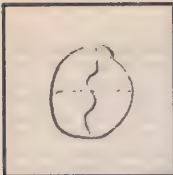
-Liz Ohanesian



CUSTOM FAST BMG

What's the point? You can review this CD yourself. If you listen to KROQ or waste your time with MTV, you will be able to hear them melt into your memory for life. It's not bad; it's actually kind of catchy in a very prepubescent kind of way. If you like mixing Pop Rocks with Coke, and getting real crazy then this CD is for you.

-Joeticjustice



**VARIOUS ARTISTS
THE WORLDWIDE TRIBUTE TO THE REAL OI VOLUME 2
TRIPLE CROWN**

Roger Miret and Onno Cromag return with a bang, hot on the heels of the success of their first volume of Oi classics performed by some of today's most world recognizable hardcore and punk acts. This time around, there may not be the same wealth of well knowns as Volume 1 contained, but the raw energy and sheer force of the music remains intact. And with entries by such bands as Murphy's Law, Ignite, Vision, The Bouncing Souls and Onno's former bandmate Harley Cro Mag as well as Mr. Miret himself fronting outfits that pay

homage to the seminal scene that stemmed from England, you not only get a bang for your buck (27 tracks in all), but also get some seasoned veterans doing their part to bring their influences to the masses. Add in a handful of excellent underground bands, such as Powerhouse, Second Chance NL and Death Threat who contribute their talents and another smashing success is inevitable. For those that want to understand where all of the music they love has come from, the second volume perfectly complements the first, and both make for not only a powerful listening experience but for a music history lesson of sorts as well. (www.triplecrownrecords.com)

-Mike SOS



**PEPPER
KONA TOWN
VOLCOM**

Okay, they call their music "kona dub-rock," but it really sounds a whole lot like Sublime, but from Hawaii. Kona, HI is where the hail from, and by the sound of it, there's probably a lot of hanging out on the beach, chasing girls and smoking weed that goes on there. Sounds a whole hell of a lot better than growing up in Philly, I know that much. So, right, the music is a blend of reggae and rock with the occasional heavy metal lick here and the odd punk rock song there. The singer sounds uncomfortably like Brad Nowell, but

of all the Sublime copycats out there, these guys rise above by actually writing good songs and having innovative arrangements. They also steer clear of the hip-hop turntable scratching and focus instead on the eerie blue beat rhythms and rolling dub bass lines. They actually pull off some really fucking tight reggae jams and even impart that feeling of contentment that only the best reggae can give. Good music for the summertime or for just smoking with your homies.

- Snotty Scotty

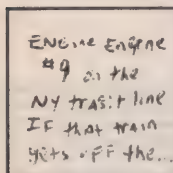


**COOKIE
SWEAT-SOAKED & SATISFIED
INFECT RECORDS**

Since their 1999 debut, All Hell Can't Stop Us, Seattle-based trio Cookie have gained a buzz so strong that even Paul Frank Industries designed a handbag named for lead singer Sabrina RockArena. With their second release, Sweat-Soaked & Satisfied, Cookie proves that they do, in fact, live up to their reputation as band-to-watch. With down 'n' dirty guitars and gritty female vocals, Cookie plays like a more roots-oriented version of the Bell Rays. Sabrina RockArena is part PJ Harvey, part Patsy Cline as she howls "Pour me another

glass of whiskey ... I just want to get drunk" on the sleazy country-punk tune "Double Shot." Cookie might not fall completely into the confines of rockabilly, nor are they completely punk, but they play with that fierce, old school intensity bound to appeal to boys in old bowling shirts and girls with Bettie Page bangs — seemingly influenced as much by Johnny Cash as by the Stooges.

-Liz Ohanesian



**ENGINE
ENGINE
SELF RELEASED CD**

Engine is a NY based outfit that sound like the mixture of Staind, Godsmack, and Tool. While the band's overall aura is dark and brooding ("Voluntary Down"), often employing complex drum beats underneath a bevy of groove filled guitar enhancements, they don't alienate the listener with endless noodling. Instead, this quartet wraps their instrumentation around catchy choruses and powerful refrains and never lose sight of the song, even when they get involved in a complex musical moment ("Blissful Dementia"). For

this, Engine stands heads and shoulders above the rest, as they understand how to satisfy not only their musical cravings, but their audience as well. For a shot of the current sounds of rock, try Engine on for size. (www.engineband.net)

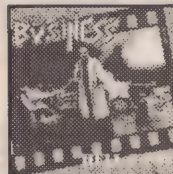
-Mike SOS



**GUILLOTINED
GUILLOTINED AT THE HANGAR
DIONYSUS RECORDS**

ROCK N ROLL! The bands on this compilation put the F-U in fun. Most of the bands on here can be classified as some sort of bastard child of Punk Rock. No pop punk here though. This CD is full of fast, aggressive and old school sounding rock. If 80's punk rock is your thing, then you should definitely check this release out. Memorable tracks include: The Reducers, Electroflex, and the M-80's.

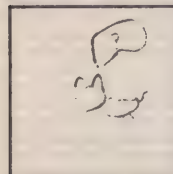
-ADF



**THE BUSINESS
HELL 2 PAY
TKO RECORDS**

TKO Records brings us another outstanding punk rock release. This 3-song EP by London's very finest, embodies a sound that represents the best of today's street punk scene. The Business show us that good quality punk rock is still alive and well. If you're a fan of their prior releases, then you're going to be a fan of the new material.

-ADF



**THE LAB RATS
START THINKING
RISK/NEW DISORDER RECORDS**

The Lab Rats throw together 11 songs of pure East Bay style Hardcore. Fast upbeat tempos coupled with raspy, snotty vocals. Huge buzzsaw guitar work and pulse pounding drums. Very similar to old East Bay monsters BLATZ. Although this genre is overly saturated, the music still comes across as original, but in a familiar way (stop me if I'm not making sense). Fans of FANG will love this for the obvious similarities, but if you're way too young to know who FANG is, you'll love this for the energy. I felt 11 songs weren't enough and

am eager to see what else these kids got up their sleeves.

-Lugz

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THE RIFFS DEAD END DREAM TKO

The Riffs have got the punk rock premise down to a science, judging by their 10 track, 30 minute release. Straight forward rock and roll guitars, drums and bass leave no surprises, nor does the typical punk lyrical content, lamenting over the transition of the scene ("Such A Bore") as well as documenting the hard living and substance abuses of the punk movement ("White Line Kids", "Dead End Dream"). With a Sex Pistols like swagger and a bounciness to their under three minute anthems, The Riffs show the world that they're a quintet that knows how to shake down the punk scene and produce some catchy tunes that should illicit raised beer mugs and fists across the nations ("Nowhere Left To Go"). (www.tko-records.com)

-Mike SOS



STAR ROOM BOYS THIS WORLD JUST WON'T LEAVE YOU ALONE SLEWFOOT RECORDS

Star Room Boys is the masterful and moving vehicle for the melancholy songs of lead singer Dave Marr. His achey-breaky heart material is convincing and moving, a confessional authenticity that remains after repeated listening. The group has a history with Dave Barbe of Sugar. Barbe produced the group's debut and likewise this sophomore release where he also plays piano on some tracks. Born of the fertile Athens, Ga. scene, these are some of the saddest ballads to ever flow out of a truck stop jukebox. The downbeat melodies are excellently delivered in arrangements of acoustic and electric guitars along with pedal steel and more.

-Tom 'Tearaway' Schulte



SQUAD FIVE-O TOOTH AND NAIL RECORDS

This NYC quintet is a unique Christian hybrid of The Ramones and The Rolling Stones. How many other Tooth and Nail bands have you heard described by the label as playing "sleazy, adrenaline induced rock 'n' roll"? While they were frantically trying to replace the album cover art of their poorly timed second album, "Bombs Over Broadway," the group was putting together this effort, their third solid rock 'n' roll album. This self-titled CD was probably spawned to give the group a new start and distance themselves from the 9/11 tragedy. The songs are suitably raspy, their hair is messy, but that tie the lead singer always wears has got to go. This is worth a listen if you're into cutting edge Christianity, if just for its peculiar tone. Free downloads are available at www.toothandnail.com

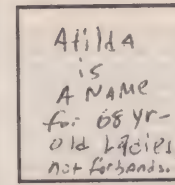
-DUG



1 TRACT MINDS THE CLINCHED FIST SELF-RELEASED

This five-song EP from LA County's street-punk trio is a sing-along excursion into the world of old fashioned Clash-style punk. There are some pretty decent guitar riffs and growling vocals here. Perhaps the most unique thing about this CD is the two closing songs that strangely enough, are distinctive, calypso-type acoustic tunes. This is a band that wants to be oi, but sounds a lot better just being the wacky, off-kilter punks they naturally are. Check out their Web site at www.1tractminds.com.

-DUG



ATILDA SELF RELEASED CD

Atilda is a young band (between 15 and 16 years of age) and it shows, both in their passionate performance and their lack of cohesiveness. Luckily enough for these young ones, they're still in their formative years and they do display some good chops and sensibilities, even though they could use a metronome, some more influences besides Blink and some overall polishing. Nonetheless, for a lighthearted look at a band akin to watching a baby take it's first steps, check out Atilda and their honest approach to punk rock.

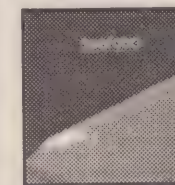
-Mike SOS



THE DEAN MALENKOS ARSE CAPADES AGGRAVATED MUSIC

Canada, Eh? Whoever said nothing good comes from Canada hasn't heard the twisted humor of The Dean Malenkos. First of all, they got their name from a WWF wrestler. Secondly, with music about a porn queen girlfriend ("I Don't Wanna Cum On Your Face") and the always amusingly ugly Tori Spelling ("Tori Spelling"), this Halifax trio emerges from the Canadian punk scene with their debut full-length, Arse Capades. The album is a combination of fast mosh-friendly beats, rockabilly twang with a sampler of cheesy boy band on the side ("4Ever(Wanna B Wit U 4Ever)") all done with witty lyrics and harmonious vocals. At first I was over the boy band parody, but if you appreciate the cheesiness of it, they pull it off well. I'm partial to the punk cover of the Cars' "Just What I Needed." Check them out at aggravatedmusic.com.

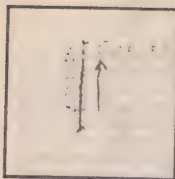
-Nikki C



SEAFOOD WHEN DO WE START FIGHTING ... INFECTIOUS RECORDS

The second full-length album from England's indie wunderkind, Seafood, was a hard and bitter bit of work. It was recorded and mixed in New York in a nerve-jangling marathon of late night arguments, cockroach-infested apartments and "hairy mattresses." Sometimes art needs a bit of filth to edge it along. Like their debut album, Surviving the Quiet, the band reaches for the stars with no thought or regret for what is left behind. Sonic guitars clash with melodic vocals, catchy melodies walk hand in hand with esoteric moments of sparse beauty, and throughout it all you have to appreciate the journey. A major label would murder this album, cut its soul out, and leave it to bleed in a heap of mediocrity. In their own words, the band has been able to "develop at their own pace, free from corporate pressure, and core-blimey-bish-bosh! shit-style hyperbole." If a commercial radio station were to play a tune off this album it would probably be the haunting anthem "Western Battle," but I'm sure the hidden track 17 minutes and 45 seconds after the end of the album will suffice to scare the industry off. This is the type of album you just can't stop listening to. Every listen reveals a new layer of sound, a depth not found in music today. This is a CD everyone should own.

-DUG



OXBOW
AN EVIL HEAT
NEUROT

Fans of Neurosis should take note of the fact that this is on Neurosis' label, which is usually a sign of quality. Once drawn in by that fact, they should note obvious thematic similarities, such as the pure sonic equivalent of insecurity, fear and bitterness. These guys have created a somewhat significant underground following pumping out a number of releases on various indie labels and touring like a good band should. I found out about them from their album "Serenade In Red" on SST Records, and they have the musicianship and loose-

jam quality that's often found with SST bands, but they're definitely on their own loud angry trip. They create tension and then break the tension in a way that doesn't relieve your tense feeling, but simply transforms into abject terror. This is no easy listening and would probably really fuck your shit up if you were to time your listening experience with the peak of some bad acid or mescaline. Oxbow is a truly original and great band.

- Snotty Scotty



SHORT ROUND
LANGUAGE
ASIAN MAN RECORDS

When Jason of the CHINKEES isn't spending time with the Mike Park-fronted ska band, he's busy fronting this 3-piece punk band from Northern California. Mixing punk with an eclectic mix of indie and emo, Jason and the rest of SHORT ROUND put out a debut release to be proud of. Consisting of 10 songs total, LANGUAGE should please everyone in the indie rock scene, as it's more indie than punk. I sense a pretty big ALKALINE TRIO influence, but then again almost every time I say a band sounds like a certain other

band, my girlfriend always starts to wonder why I'm even allowed to review CDs. Regardless of who they sound like, just know LANGUAGE is a 30 minute ride through the depths of indie, emo, and punk. Did I mention it was pretty damn good?

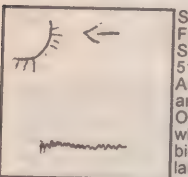
-Dane Jackson



NICE
MY PLANET
TANKFARM RECORDS

The debut album from this Fullerton, Calif.-based, quartet is a self-labeled "Europop vibe." While their chief influences are Travis and Oasis, they've managed to craft a sound that is uniquely their own by texturing layers of synthesizer and catchy pop guitar riffs. Strangely enough, the lead singer, John Anderson, has a lilting vocal style that is slightly reminiscent of Jon Anderson of Yes. Mellow rock songs dominate this CD. They're sweet, soft and pure radio fodder. Nearly every song on this album has the catchy melody that alt-rock promoters would kill for. Nice is a very nice band, not the type you'll see at Ozzfest, but just the type you're bound to see doing commercials for Volkswagen in the near future.

-DUG



SUNN
FLIGHT OF THE BEHEMOTH
SOUTHERN LORD

51:29. That's the running time of Sunn's latest journey into the abyss. And, if you enjoy the sounds of airplane engines, massive feedback and have 51:29 to waste, by all means pick this record up. Otherwise, don't bother, unless you're a stickler for CD artwork, which happens to be first rate in this instance, complete with cherubic depictions of century old battle scenes and an actual pill bottle label from Ozzy Osbourne. If that's not rock and roll, what is? Well, not what Sunn put on the disc, that's for sure, unless you're a dolphin and can appreciate the cacophonous noise that a machine's hum makes. (www.southernlordrecords.com)

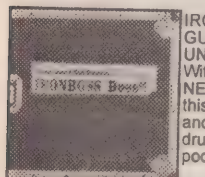
-Mike SOS



ARSON
LACERATE THE SKY
RESURRECTION A.D.

On its third release, Arson continue to fuse together elements of death metal and grindcore for a sound that can be defined as nothing other than pure metal in it's heaviest form. Much like their name infers, this New Jersey-based band has a sound that is as consuming as deep orange flames. Searing guitars play against a blaze of vocals while the rhythm section pounds out beats as urgent as the pulse line of a person trapped within an inferno. Intense. Frightening. Brutal. Arson is all of this and then some.

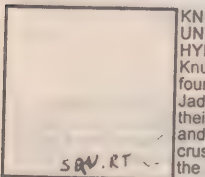
-Liz Ohanesian



IRONBOSS
GUNS DON'T KILL PEOPLE... IRONBOSS DOES
UNDERDOGMA RECORDS

With song titles such as MOTHERFUCKER, PUSSY ON THE CORNER, and BAD MOTHERFUCKERS, you automatically know that this band has some serious issues. They play a hybrid of punk, blues and traditional rock. This is the kind of band that your 40 year old drunk father, and his old college buddies would play in. So if you like poorly recorded live records of half-ass rock bands, buy this record.

-ADF



KNUT
UNTITLED
HYDRAHEAD

Knut's punishing progressive hardcore sounds are audible via a new four song EP that proves this Swedish quartet to be as brutal as ever. Jaded melodies and tortured vocals lead the fracas ("Dissolve") as their Helmet meets Dillinger Escape Plan sounds invade your head and take charge of your cerebral cortex. Angry, bitter and above all crushing ("You Deserve Me"), if this EP is indicative of the onslaught the new full length will render, shudder to think of the consequences. (www.hydrahead.com)

-Mike SOS



MONC
M
MONC CONGLOMERATED INDUSTRIES

This College Radio star has released a new album featuring music from his past two EP's. This CD ranges in style from soul, jazz, and funk, all backed by electronic samples and his smooth vocal styling. This may very well be the new artist to break through the British pop curtain. This is definitely a great CD to use for relaxation, since it grabs your attention by creating a very ambient and hypnotic sound. If you're into smooth sounds, in the vein of Moby, Blur, and Massive Attack, then you should definitely go buy this album.

-ADF

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**PINWHEEL
TROUBLE DOLL
PINCH HIT RECORDS**

Fuzzy guitars, melodic vocals, catchy hooks, and hard-nosed rock exudes from the latest reach from these rock throwbacks from Long Beach. Their sound may not be the "in thing" at the moment, but their sincerity shines through on just about every song. I found it hard to get into every single song the first listen through, but after a while, the tracks on TROUBLE DOLL start to grow on you, especially "once upon a lie." The vocals are hard to hear at times, and aside from a few production glitches, PINWHEEL puts out a solid record. They're not punk or emo, but their sound seems to be laced with hints from those genres, mainly punk. Their sound is more heavy, distorted guitars from big bands, rather than punk bands. In general, I'd say PINWHEEL sounds like a very good college band that deserves to make it big, but based on the music scene today, probably won't.

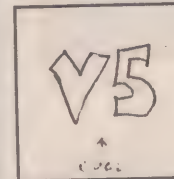
-Dane Jackson



**VNV NATION
FUTURE PERFECT
METROPOLIS RECORDS**

VNV uses electronically sampled beats, techno overdrives, and smooth male vocals to provide us with catchy, yet danceable tunes. If you gave the Faint a less-skilled singer, then you'd have VNV Nation. The music is top notch for club music, but the vocals tend to anchor this CD, and are what prevent the music from whisking you away into a better place. If this group recruited a better singer, they might actually have a shot at larger success.

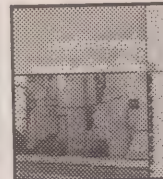
-ADF



**VARIOUS ARTISTS
VICTORY STYLE 5
VICTORY RECORDS**

Another raging comp by those music masters at Victory. A full range indie music extravaganza with everything from metal tinged brutal hardcore (SNAPCASE), to some poppy punk stuff (SNOWDOGS), to Emo (STUDENT RICK, TAKING BACK SUNDAY), to Streetpunk (RIVER CITY REBELS), to Rawk (ELECTRIC FRANKENSTEIN) and then the eclectic Ska-core-punk bash of VOO DOO GLOW SKULLS. Other bands fit somewhere between these diverse genre's like REACH THE SKY, being punk and pop without ever being pop-punk but managing to be 100% rock n' roll. All in this is a good sampler of what Victory has been brewing up all year and a quick reference point of what is currently available at Chicago's finest label. There is something on here for everyone regardless of taste and preference. That is the thing I always enjoyed about Victory, their eclectic roster of bands. They are willing to go beyond the stereotypical "genre" labels and take chances with a multitude of styles. Did I mention that many of these tracks are presently only available on this particular comp. So do yourself a favor and serve up a huge hunk of VICTORY STYLE 5. Twenty three bands, Twenty Three songs, all kick ass!

-Lugz



**LANDSPEEDRECORD/PROSOLAR MECHANICS
URBAN DEVELOPMENT SERIES VOL. 4
AMBIGUOUS CITY! RECORDS**

The Indie Rock craze has invaded the hearts of Baltimore based record label, Ambiguous City. This split CD offers some underground rock from two up-and-coming East Coast bands. North Carolina based Landspeed Record! can only be described as a new and worse version of The Talking Heads. They are basically Indie rock with mediocre vocals. Prosolar Mechanics offers an unoriginal Indie sound fronted by a female vocalist, whose voice gets old as fast as George Bush can pass out from a pretzel. Hopefully the next ambiguous split is not as boring to listen to.

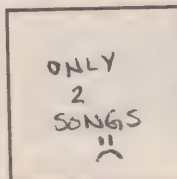
-ADF



**AVOID ONE THING
S/T
SIDE ONE DUMMY**

And now for something a little bit different. Something quirky. Something poppy. Something thoughtful and inspiring. Is it punk? I could be. Is it pop? It sounds like it. I wouldn't necessarily call it pop-punk though. Joey Gittelman (Presently of the Mighty Mighty Bosstones and formally of the most influential band to hail from Boston, Gang Green) has put together a ultra-interesting side project that ventures into the pop influenced world of punk that was once treaded by bands like the REPLACEMENTS, PIXIES, JAWBOX and even JAWBOX. Whimsical sounds teamed with user-friendly lyrics about drinking, good friends and all the light faire that goes with hanging out in your own private Idaho, making your place in a world that sets up too many rules. Rules you tend to ignore anyway. The songs are very well constructed and I am quite sure if Bob Mould (HUSKER DU, SUGAR) heard this, he'd be an instant fan to their intrinsic songwriting. Now did I mention that JOEY not only plays bass but also takes on the lead vocal duties, much different yet just as soulful as Bosstone partner Dickies voice. At times his voice is very similar to the vocal stylings of ALL (past and present vocalists). Joining him on this album is DARK-BUSTERS Paul Delano on guitar, RAGING TEENS Amy Griffin also on guitar and Dave Karch of the PILFERS rounding out the unit on drums. All from Boston, but yet beyond the Boston sound. This is a strong first release with high hopes for a long future of perfect rawkin'. Pick this up now and by no means should you avoid this one thing.

-Lugz



**REACHING FORWARD
2 SONG SAMPLER
SELF RELEASED CD**

Reaching Forward mix their style between the nu metal warblings of Taproot and the powerful punch of Sevendust ("Break My Hands") on this two song sampler. Heavy, emotive and supercharged with a surging guitar attack, Reaching Forward seem primed to move on up to that deluxe spot in the metal realm, judging by their immaculately produced and masterfully performed sampler. (www.reachingforward.net)

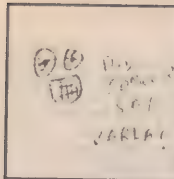
-Mike SOS



**DAYCARE
DAYCARE
BLACKLINER RECORDS**

My ears do not catch much that is very interesting in the trio's semi-nerd disposition that inescapable and formulaic adolescence of Daycare's self-titled six-song EP. If you find humor in song titles like "Crankslut" and songs about that could easily be about self-pleasure (listen to "Pitiful") then Daycare's ensuing alt/punk silliness awaits you! If you have something/anything by Weezer then you probably do not need this.

-Jory Dominguez



VARNA
VARNA
SELF RELEASED CD

Varna is a California quartet whose dynamic yet dark three song CD evokes bits of Sevendust and Deftones. The overall emotion is closer to bands of lesser intensity (think Fuel), although they do have a driving rhythm section that tends to put the band over the top ("Self Control"). Their sound isn't earth shattering, but Varna manages to put out a solid slab of emotively driven hard rock that may strike a chord with the disenchanted youth of America. (www.varna01.com)

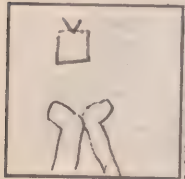
-Mike SOS



APOCALYPSE ALWAYS
VIRUS277
ALTERNATIVE TENTACLES

It's my opinion that record label "samplers" are always just a label's piss poor attempt at marketing its latest "hits." And that usually the moron who picks the hits is off marching to a different beat and never seems to reflect the same interests that I would have, if given the chance to pick the songs. This is my belief with the one single exception: That being the always anxiously awaited "virus" compilations that come from Jello Biafra's own 21-year-old label "Alternative Tentacles." This CD is not only packed with some of the label's best such as Zen Guerrilla, Causey Way, and the certifiably "crazy" Wesley Willis, it's also loaded with some very heavy political spoken word figures, such as Mumia Abu-Jamal, a black Philadelphia journalist who had a long history of criticizing the justice system and was allegedly falsely imprisoned for the murder of a police officer. Also we have Angela Y. Davis, a black and very impressively educated woman who was also arrested and imprisoned for her involvement with a Black Panther prison break that resulted in a big shoot out. I remember her also by her very cool and huge Afro that made me wish I could do that with my own hair. Buy this CD, get educated. Also the term "Alternative" once had a deeper meaning before the MTV dorks of the word melted it. You'll get educated on that too here.

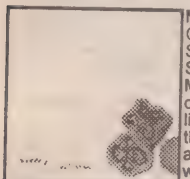
-Joeticjustice



DREAM THEATER
SIX DEGREES OF INNER TURBULENCE
ELEKTRA

Dream Theater is by far the premiere progressive metal band on this Earth. So, of course, in their usual grandiose form, they have to raise the musical bar in their never-ending commitment to musical excellence and release a six song, near 100 minute opus. What makes Dream Theater such a rabidly followed outfit is not only their supreme musical talent, but also their versatility. They know the right time to amaze the masses with incredible solos as well as when to hold it all down with churning, chugging riffs. Dream Theater may scare the casual music fan away with their virtuosity, but the casual music fan probably doesn't understand that listening to these five men play is akin to watching Jordan play ball. If you're looking for something to blow your musical mindset, or if you're merely looking to be dumbfounded, the new Dream Theater (hell, all of their stuff, for that matter) is just what you need. (www.dreamtheater.net)

-Mike SOS

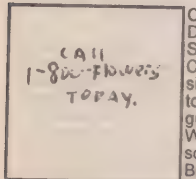


MAYDAY
OLD BLOOD
SADDLE CREEK

Some cool bands have been coming out of Omaha, N.E. lately. Mayday included. For a quick second there I thought I felt a little bit of that feeling that the Microphones (the band) gives me. The feeling like on the surface, they are trying to suck, perhaps for the benefit of the empty headed and shallow (perhaps to allude them). But yet on a grander scale, there is depth that the average listener cannot form words or even thoughts to describe. Mayday reminds me of that feeling. I like the instruments and especially "Lullaby for a Sleeping

Elephant."

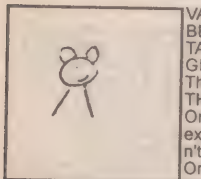
-Joeticjustice



CLOSER THAN KIN
DEAD FLOWERS FOR A DYING LOVER
SELF RELEASED CD

Closer Than Kin is a New England quintet whose metalcore aggression and rapid fire time changes that go from chugging fist pumpers to slow grinders earn them gold stars for their five song EP. Strong guitars that weave melodics and brutality together ("If Demons Could Weep") make CTK a force to be reckoned with, while the dual scream/ sing vocal style helps their crossover sound balance out. Bleak lyrical content ("bright future's with brighter smiles/ now we're broken and at a loss" from "When Toys Are Traded For Tears") make you wonder just what they hell is in the water in New England that makes all these New England hardcore kids such mopes. Maybe it's the climate, or the Red Sox's lack of World Series action, but it definitely makes for a bunch of unhappy adolescents, but some kick ass music as a byproduct. If you like American Nightmare, Reach The Sky or lamentful hardcore music, you'll feel exactly the way Closer Than Kin wants you to. (www.ctk508.com)

-Mike SOS



VARIOUS ARTISTS
BECAUSE WE CARE: A BENEFIT FOR THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF ORANGE COUNTY
GLUE FACTORY RECORDS

The powerhouses of the Orange County music scene such as THRICE, REEL BIG FISH, RUFIO, and OZMA team up with 16 other Orange County bands to help raise money for the ever-growing expenses of the Children's Hospital. Since I'm from Michigan, I didn't recognize all of the bands, but I did recognize a few particular Orange County bands who were MIA for this comp, one being the RX BANDITS. Regardless of their absence, the bands on the comp are still able to deliver 70 minutes of some pretty good music. Highlight of the album include REEL BIG FISH's first new song in a while and THRICE's rendition of the BEATLES' "Eleanor Rigby." If you don't get this CD, then people will think you don't give a shit about helping the children, so get your ass out to the store, and pick one up!

-Dane Jackson



TWELTHIRTYEIGHT
REGULATE THE CHEMICALS
TOOTH & NAIL RECORDS

"Regulate The Chemicals" is album number two for the Florida-based Twelfthirtyeight. Guitars weave in and out of the Chris Staples' solid vocals and lyrics. Most of the album is slow to burn, so if you are anxious for the speed to pick up at some point during the album's eleven tracks do not bother. But if you can handle a lost-in-thought album "Regulate The Chemicals" is an excellent choice and should be played loudly to make the effects of songs like "There is No Dana" and "Moving Too Far" last longer.

-Jory Dominguez

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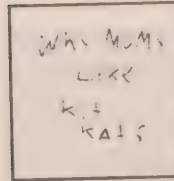


**NOISE RACHET
TILL WE HAVE FACES
THE MILITIA GROUP**

Nothing is new here; just the same old emo-pop-punk crossover that's infesting every corner of the music world. Not that they're bad, but I'm just sick of hearing bands like this. The truth is that they're good at this kind of thing and have some cool arrangements, but there are just no decent songs here. The sound is boring and the only cool stuff they do are clever little gimmicks, like ending the first song in a way that sounds like your tape player is dying. However, if you like bands like the Jimmy Eat Alkaline Water Music Promise

Kids, then you might like it, because they're good at it.

- Snotty Scotty



**ETERNAL ELYSIUM
SHARE
METEOR CITY**

Stoner rock's notoriety is worldwide, as Japan is firmly represented by a trio known as Eternal Elysium and their latest nine track mission, SHARE. Keeping in the spirit of such bands as Deep Purple, Trouble and Monster Magnet, Eternal Elysium's riffs grind with furious grit ("Schizy"). The rhythms are chunky, complete with a heavy handed backbeat and a hypnotic slow groove, just like founding forefathers such as Blue Cheer and Sabbath showed them ("Love Is All"). Swirling vocals add depth to the tripped out sensation ("Feel The Beat", "Dogma") that these guys showcase. They even go that extra mile and incorporate a disco beat into their thick mix, making a bonafide Buddha booty bonanza in the process ("Movements and Vibes"). Fuzzy, sludgy, and not without a massive space jam to lose your head to ("Waiting For The Sun"), Eternal Elysium have concocted a potent collection of tunes guaranteed to make every time as special as 4:20. (www.soybean.co.jp/EE)

-Mike SOS

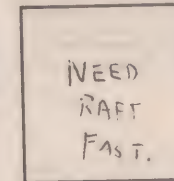


**THE FAREWELL LETTER
ON THE FOOTSTEPS OF EVERY DOOR
SINK OR SWIM RECORDS**

The debut EP from this Chico, Calif., quartet is a pleasant mixture of emo rock and soft, almost languid, melodies. The title track has already garnered some radio airplay in Northern California, while the band has been performing acoustic versions of these songs live for radio shows. While the four songs on this EP are nicely done, they're just too slight a taste of what this band has to offer. Currently they are putting the finishing touches on a full-length release which is due our this summer. Check them out on their Web site for some free

samples at www.farewellmusic.com.

-DUG



**FLOOD
2 SONG SAMPLER
SELF RELEASED CD**

Flood is a NYC based band whose two song sampler could use a massive production overhaul. The band's music, while not the most cohesive, gets its alternative rock point across well enough with passable singing and decent guitar lines leading the charge, but the lack of dynamics in the recording, as well as in the songwriting, leave the band out in the cold. Flood's sampler shows promise, but need to beef up the mix and round out their songs before they can conquer the Creed contingent. (www.floodmusic.com)

-Mike SOS

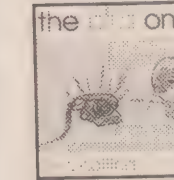


**DEADSY
COMMENCEMENT
DREAMWORKS**

Fronted by second-generation rocker P. Exeter Blue I (Elijah Blue Allman), Deadsy seems to be the Los Angeles-based rock band that everyone has heard about but no one has actually heard. Their name pops in music magazines and on marquees for local clubs, but the much-hyped debut album has never surfaced —until now. Seven years ago, the band signed to Sire/Elektra, but the album was lost amongst chaos of the labels' split. Later, a deal with Sire/Warner Bros. failed to produce the already-completed debut.

After a few years in music industry limbo, Commencement is set for release by Dreamworks. After years of talk, some may ask, "So, what's this album sound like?" Commencement seems to fit into the late-90s to present day trend in goth music — more influenced by Marilyn Manson than Joy Division. Most of this album has a nu metal feel, highlighted by the fact that the first single "The Key to Gramercy Park" features Jonathan Davis of Korn. But the goth influence shows on such synthesizer-heavy tracks as "She Likes Big Words" and the Marilyn Manson-esq "Seagulls (the Macroprosopus)," and the circus sideshow vibe of "Le Cirque En Rose (Obsolescence)." Meanwhile, P. Exeter manages to retain an quirky evil quality in his voice without succumbing to campiness, even when playing the role of Geddy Lee on their cover of "Tom Sawyer."

-Liz Ohanesian

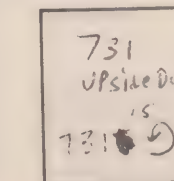


**THE PLUS ONES
IT'S A CALLING
ASIAN MAN RECORDS**

I'm not really sure how to label this band, because their music seems to blend so many genres. I guess the only thing to really call it is rock. Anyways, THE PLUS ONES are fronted by Joel Reader, formerly of THE MR. T EXPERIENCE and IT'S A CALLING is their debut. Their songs deal with the indie music scene and lost love among other things. Musically, THE PLUS ONES have very catchy hooks that will make even the most close-minded of those in the independent music scene hum along. Before the release of IT'S A

CALLING, the band put out a split with the TRAVOLTAS, and when I heard that, I knew they had potential. Well, the band has proven my thoughts with their debut full-length. If you like music that seems to blend the elements of power pop, indie rock, emo, and punk, then pick this disc up. The band's sound is a refreshing change from all the bands in the scene that sound exactly the same. Besides, when is the last time Asian Man let you down?

-Dane Jackson



**137
PRODUCT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
SELF RELEASED CD**

137 is a hard hitting outfit from Upstate NY whose five tracks hit you like a freight train. Yes, this band may be a tough pill to swallow for those mall metal people wearing the Slipknot jumpsuit and rocking out to Puddle Of Mudd. 137 are doomy, sludgy, heavy and have the growl of a Doberman watching a junkyard all in their favor ("Slug," "Savior"), and if those aren't qualities every good metal band needs, what else is there? If you dig Crowbar, Six Feet Under, and Propain and you have a desire to bust up some skulls, 137 would gladly provide the soundtrack of your debaucherous endeavors. (<http://welcome.to/137>)

-Mike SOS

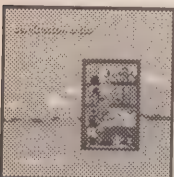


**KAIA
OREGON
MR. LADY RECORDS**

Seven years removed of her former punk rock/riot grrrl outfits including Team Dresch and Adickid, Kaia Wilson presents "Oregon," her third solo album. While she may have traded her tempestuous electric guitars for acoustic ones, Kaia embraces what is truest to her. Akin to her two previous solo albums, "Oregon" primarily stars Kaia singing over the acoustic guitar, while lyrically exploring and often juxtaposing themes of unrequited love and that strange raw, passionate/undisputable adoration combination. Musically, "Oregon" is a

somewhat intimate and quiet folk record, not unlike something one might hear by the Indigo Girls (of whom, Amy Ray guest stars on one of the tracks). "Oregon" may not be as exhilarating as Team Dresch's work on say "Captain My Captain," but that is not to say that the simplistic and romantic nature is not effective (try "World's Greatest Haircut"), and Kaia achieves the latter on it.

-Jory Dominguez

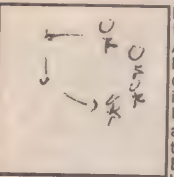


**SEMIAUTOMATIC
RESIDENT GENIUS
5 RUE CHRISTINE**

So, apparently, this Rop Style dude used to be the singer for the Berkley hardcore band Rice, who wrote all of their songs about... Rice. Yes, the food, get over it. So, anyway, he moved to Brooklyn, connected with Akiko Carver, and started making this synthesizer driven noisy punkish music. I wouldn't really call this digital hardcore or synth-punk since the album is full of cheesy synthesizer noodling that you probably were pulling off when you were teenage delinquent

fucking around with the store displays at Radio Shack. However, they have some songs that blend some cool hardcore spirit (if nowhere else, then at least in the shouted vocals and occasional dirty guitar lick) with their techno beats. Some of these songs really jump out and grab you by the whatever-it-is-that-music-grabs- you-by, but there's a lot of filler. If you're into drum machines and punk, checka checka check it out.

- Snotty Scotty

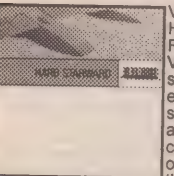


**MU330
ULTRA PANIC
ASIAN MAN RECORDS**

MU330 is probably one of the hardest working ska bands left in the depleting ska scene. Their effort and hard work paid off though and it shows in their new release on ASIAN MAN. The disc is called ULTRA PANIC and if you call yourself an MU330 fan you probably already have it. If you don't, then shame on you. ULTRA PANIC is 17 tracks of vintage MU330. They even borrowed some members of the BLUE MEANIES to help them out on organ and saxophone duties.

What ensues is probably one of the purest third wave ska albums to be released in a long time. Some of my favorites on the disc include "serious," "kkk highway," and "these rocks have energy." Trust me, this disc is well worth the 8 bucks it costs if you get it from ASIAN MAN.

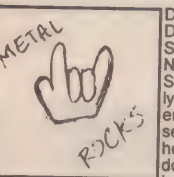
-Dane Jackson



**VARIAC
HARD STEWARD
RUSTBELT RECORDS**

Variac embodies the type of music that you find on really bad movie soundtracks. When I listen to their ambient rock styling, I am reminded of things such as the old U2 (Joshua Tree-esque), and the vocal styling of the California native band, Dishwalla. This is a solid rock album that I can definitely see gracing the soft-alternative radio charts someday. This is not an album you blast in your car and rock out to. This is more along the lines of a CD you play while you're in the shower thinking of Britany Spears.

-ADF

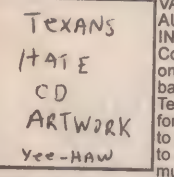


**DOWNSHALLOW
DOWNSHALLOW
SELF RELEASED CD**

New Jersey is a weird place; where else can toxic waste, The Sopranos, the Atlantic City boardwalk and Jon Bon Jovi all peacefully coexist? Does this phenomenon explain the wealth of musical talent that continues to hail from The Garden State? That remains to be seen, but what is clear is that a quartet named Downshallow are here, and will take you by the balls and show you just what they can do. And what these guys succeed in doing is play no frills, straight up hard rock with a furrowed brow and a tinge of anguish in their lyrics

to accentuate the feeling. They'll make you sweat, they'll have you empathize with them, and by God, they'll rock you ("Get Off"). But not in a nu metal, head bobbing kind of way. These guys are a lot more visceral than that, as their righteous guitar fills reminiscent of Hammett at his bluesy best and sullen melodies a la Staind ("Never You") will have you flicking your Bic and banging your head simultaneously. Hard rock is back, and thankfully, it's sans hairspray and spandex and chock full of emotion and groove. You can thank Downshallow next time you catch them live. (www.downshallow.com)

-Mike SOS



**VARIOUS ARTISTS
AUSTIN MUSICAL COMMUNITY 001
INDEPENDENCE**

Contained herein is one of them local scene compilations, which is only palatable due to the depth of talent and enormous selection of bands to choose from in this particular music scene. I mean, it's Texas, and it's Austin. I could go on for days naming bad ass performers in Lone Star State history from the Dicks, MDC and Big Boys to the Skatenigs, 13th Floor Elevators and Butthole Surfers on over to Buddy Holly, Stevie Ray Vaughn and Delbert McLinton. Texas music has always rocked MY world anyway. So how's the state of things in the live music capital of the world, Austin Texas? Pretty damn good even if the bands on this CD were all that the state has to offer these days (and trust me, it's not, check out Bozo Porno Circus). Included are The Spiders, Powersquid, Hobbie, Pong, Sniffy, HeKil3, Free Range Bastards, Electric Cook (what a name!), USS Friendship, Honky, Brown Whornet, Migas, Squat Thrust, Blood Burnin', Madcow, School Trauma Flashback, Excess Lettuce, Tuna Helpers, and Creeperweed. The styles are indicative of the sort of thing that makes Texas music so great, the fact that all of these bands have a solid rock groove as the foundation upon which they build whatever innovative hybrid of metal, punk, indie, and psychedelic sounds they choose to work with. There are country sounds at work here. There's some hardcore influences, there's a post-grunge thing going on, and there's more creative drug-punk than you can shake a stick at. The best part is that all the genres that I've just names are incorporated into some unique band sounds instead of the bands being pluggers into those genres. Just buy the damn thing and understand why I'm such a Texas music groupie.

- Snotty Scott

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Where da hell did my rifle go, son?

LEGENDS OF RODEO A THOUSAND FRIDAY NIGHTS BIELER BROS. RECORDS

Although LEGENDS OF RODEO comes from the same scene as bands like NEW FOUND GLORY and DASHBOARD CONFESIONAL, they sound more like a traditional American rock band than em, punk, or emo punk. While they have songs that transcend into the emo genre, I'd say their music is more suitable for arenas. When I listened to this disc, I just couldn't shake the image of thousands of people singing along to the choruses. It's feel good music and during these times, that's a good thing. A cross between TOM PETTY and DASHBOARD CONFESIONAL accurately describes LOR's sound, and with songs like "American Girl," which is probably the best song on the disc, comparisons to SPRINGSTEEN come close to describing their lyric content. One other notable song to mention that shows their fan's devotion to the band is "Nothing Better to Do," which the lead singer wrote while some fans were helping repair the band's van.

-Dane Jackson

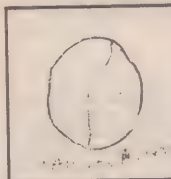
Used to be a piece of shit, but now it's a piece of shit.

THE ATOMIC BITCHWAX SPIT BLOOD METEORCITY

Ed Mundell and company return with a holdover release that, like a good candy bar, does the job and ties you over until the big meal. This seven song selection showcases the dirty guitar and space aged trippiness that you'd expect from a Monster Magnet member's side project ("Cold Day In Hell"), with more instrumental activity than a Time Life series compilation. Thick melodies and fat rhythms help The Atomic Bitchwax remain one of the dirtier players in the game today ("Spit Blood"). Jam rock for the stoner in all of us, TAB leaves us tasty morsels of what's to come from a full length release when the time is right.

(www.meteorcity.com)

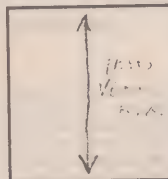
-Mike SOS



VARIOUS ARTISTS WORLDWIDE TRIBUTE TO THE REAL OI VOL.2 TRIPLECROWN RECORDS

Leave it to Agnostic Front's Roger Miret and Onno Cromag to dish up a second helping of "Oi!" covers by some of Punk & Hardcore's heaviest hitters. IGNITE put some American "Oomph!" into PETER & the TEST TUBE BABIES classic "The Jinx". DEATH THREAT proves they rule supreme with LAST RESORT's "King of the Jungle". MURPHYS LAW reinvent the BUSINESS' "Drinking & Driving" in pure New York boot boy fashion, recreating a classic sing a long "Oi!" anthem that must be experienced to be believed. 15 bands doing 27 classic boot stomping ditties in all. Once again, TRIPLE CROWN saves the compilation scene with a comp that contains all thrills and no filla. Every song a classic on one helluv a classic CD. Cheers!!!

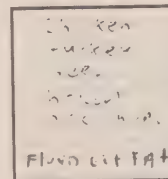
-Lugz



TINNITUS BIGGER THAN JESUS SELF RELEASED CD

A power trio of sorts, Missouri's Tinnitus lumbers their way through 12 tracks of metallic tinged grunge and punk. Mid tempo guitar infused rockers lead the charge a la Godsmack ("About This") with an early Nirvana backbeat ("Out Of My Mind"), truly blending the metal and punk genres. While the entire CD suffers from a lack of production, almost sounding as if it was recorded in a garage, it fits the band's hard rocking style and gives the collection a very underground feel ("Fear"). While Tinnitus may not be the tightest outfit in the world, they're not out to reinvent the wheel, and their three chord stomps and punk rock pretenses ("Overdose") are taken just fine if you keep that in mind. If you're looking for technical excellence, look away, but if it's a sturdy live vibe you crave, Tinnitus fits the bill. (tinnitus2001@yahoo.com)

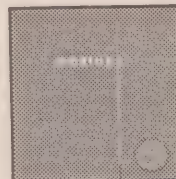
-Mike SOS



VARIOUS ARTISTS THE THING THAT ATE FLOYD LOOKOUT RECORDS

Although the production quality on this comp is very eclectic at best (some good, decent and poor production jobs here), its purpose is to display a snapshot of a moment in time, the late 80's to be most specific. Yeah, most of these bands no longer exist, but that is the magic of this comp. It chronicles a scene that was centered around Berkley's Gilman Street Project (a DIY coop punk Venue) back in the 80's. And it also goes to show that LOOKOUT wasn't always a POP happy record label intent on making millions but rather a diligent DIY label with it's loyalties geared toward it's immediate scene. There is supposedly a 24-page booklet included with this disc (which I wasn't provided, so my comments stop here) displaying plenty of band info and artwork. Bands included are OPERATION IVY, CRINGER, NEUROSISS, MR. T EXPERIENCE, NO USE FOR A NAME, CRIMP SHINE and an endless cast of Bay Area hooligans (34 in all). Get this one for the sheer collector's appreciation of these lost gems. All in all a very good comp with some, hard to find tracks you can't get anywhere else but here.

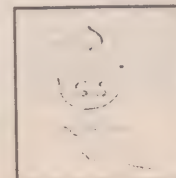
-Lugz



MAKTUB KHROS OSSIA RECORDS

The band's first release garnered a lot of fan fare and support and after hearing their follow-up KHROS, I wouldn't expect anything less than to match the success of their debut. KHROS is filled with eclectic and groovy jazz, blues, and new age sounds, mixed with heartfelt and soulful vocals. This probably isn't a disc that will appeal to the readers of SKRATCH unless you have an open mind and a desire to experience new music. If you like jazz, soul, and blues music, then MAKTUB may be right up your alley because those are the major influences I hear with their self-released album. I really dug the disc and listening to it caused me to research different artists in this genre, so it may just be worth it to those of you who are set in their ways musically to check out.

-Dane Jackson



GENOCIDE SS WE ARE BORN OF HATE RELAPSE

Genocide SS take the passion of punk, the dynamics of thrash metal and the violent tendencies of hardcore and create 17 tracks of relentlessly angry music. While the lyrical content is seething with simple messages of hate and despair, the music is just as intense, creating an unsettling listening experience. Take SOD, Misfits, Hatebreed and Motorhead together and put them into one badass band. Genocide SS is the name; let the aural beating commence.

-Mike SOS



**TREAD
HIDING FROM THE SUN
SELF RELEASED CD**

Hailing from Colorado, Tread's brand of metal is punishing enough to leave welts on your ears. Their 12 tracks of balls out aggression walks the line between noise and melody skillfully, a la Will Haven meeting Machine Head ("Hiding From The Sun," "What U Are"). Tread pummels the listener with an array of tuned down guitar riffs and earth shattering basslines ("Drained"), wielding the fury that all true metal should. And with song titles like "13 Tons Of Lead" and "Scarless Torture" in their repertoire, odds are that this long running quartet won't be playing in intimate coffeehouses anytime soon. In fact, the way these guys beat the hell out of things, it'd be a wonder if any club they frequent is still standing. Hard rocking and unforgiving, Tread unravel a maelstrom of metal for mass consumption. Will you survive the onslaught? (www.treadmusic.com)

-Mike SOS



**THOUGHT RIOT
SHATTERED MIRROR SYNDROME
A-F RECORDS**

At last, a band that is pure, sincere in its beliefs, and just as honest when it comes to its music. Hailing from California's Central Valley, THOUGHT RIOT holds no punches in its audio attack. Musically they run the gamut combining the speed and intensity of bands like STRIFE and IGNITE with the melodic overtones of bands like PENNYWISE and 59 TIMES THE PAIN. Straight in your face punk with a message. And the message isn't a gimmick (like Rage against the Machine), true to heart lyrics dealing with government policy, reality. Superbly produced and well written, this is sure to be a band that will be remembered for decades to come.

-Luz



**RESCUE
EVEN PEOPLE AND NOT THE ODDS
DEAD DROID RECORDS**

Rescue is a band whose music cannot sit still. Fast and full of false starts "Even People and Not the Odds" is a five song EP loaded with potential. Rescue seem to play with fire in is being so detailed musically with its layers of convoluted guitar work that it might as soon be called a mess. The shifty nature of the relationship between the introspective and beautiful lyrics and the need-for-speed guitars makes for a peculiar fusion that never seems to let one aspect overpower the other. Such earsplitting and emotionally spiked qualities are best displayed in "Like Spaceships" and "You Can Be A Werewolf If You Want To." Rescue is worth your time, and the impending full-length debut album can be awaited with eagerness.

-Jory Dominguez

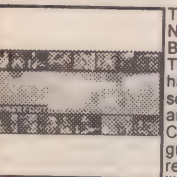


**KUNG FU KILLERS
GAME OF DEATH
TKO RECORDS**

If your thing is old school flavor hardcore punk, the KUNG FU KILLERS definitely may be the band you've been looking for. This disc marks their debut on TKO and swiftly they set themselves apart from the Streetpunk pop of many of the bands on this label, instead choosing to follow a more aggressive and original path that progresses in the hardcore genre and still pays homage to the old school. Hailing from Jersey, KFK's serve up a high-octane bash of pure punk mayhem. Sonically I can see links to early 80's era DOA

and the CIRCLE JERKS and maybe even a little bit of LA's WASTED YOUTH. Now keep in mind that this is only a six-song sampler of the destruction that these guys are capable of committing. Three originals and three covers (and if I may add, they do a superb version of the Misfits "I Turned into a Martian") all 100% pure punk. If this is the face of new punk, then maybe there is hope for all of here. Simply stated & awesome!!!!

-Luz

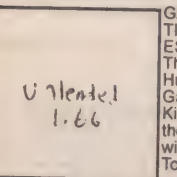


**THREEFOOT
NOT ABOUT YOU
BETRAY RECORDS**

The energetic full-length debut from this San Diego-based quartet has enough punk/pop power to demo a nightclub. With an urgent sound and an upbeat tempo that calls forth comparisons to Fenix Tx and Sum 41, this band is destined to become one of Southern California's most popular acts. Quick guitar riffs, powerful drums and great backing vocals dominate most of the songs on this CD with the real standouts being the opening track, "Fun Addiction," the anthem-like "Bombs," and the punkish ballad "So Wrong So Long." If there is

a drawback to this album it's that most of the songs sound quite similar. On the other hand, if it's a good sound, nobody gives a damn. Hopefully the boys' prophetic final track, "1-800-NEED-A-HIT," will strike a resonant chord with the radio industry. Check out their sound for yourself at www.mp3.com/threefoot

-DUG



**GAS HUFFER
THE REST OF US
ESTRUS RECORDS**

This is the sixth album from veteran garage-a-billy rockers Gas Huffer and their first full-length on Estrus. There are deep roots in this Gas Huffer punk rock. If Neil Young blended with The Cramps, or Bill Kirchen merged with Reverend Horton Heat, this could be very well the result of that mixture. Their hard country sounds are delivered with a fun spirit with a heavy, melodic post-grunge sound. Guitarist Tom Price's work in the U-Men presaged the grunge movement and now Gas Huffer takes that sound forward while looking back to the backwoods roots of rock and boiling it all down in a garage. File next to Mudhoney!

-Tom 'Tearaway' Schulte



**CURLUPANDDIE
UNFORTUNATELY WE'RE NOT ROBOTS
REVELATION RECORDS**

Scorching its way through 15 tracks, CURLUPANDDIE's, Unfortunately We're Not Robots, is more a creature of death metal than anything else. It almost completely overshadows Matt Fucks (guitar) and sounds as if Mike Minnick is coughing up a lung. Is it good? There is NO POSSIBLE WAY of making out the words, so you might as well give the headache screams and hard percussion a shot. It's all that's really sticking out anyway.

-Darren Ratner

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THE AQUA VELVETS RADIO WAVES

MIGHTY/MILAN ENTERTAINMENT
This is a two-CD set of radio broadcast recordings by the slippery, slightly surf-sounding instrumental combo. That is actually a bit misleading, because CD 2 is actually a four-track EP, but does include a reverb-y treatment of "Smells Like Teen Spirit" recorded by surf archivist Steve Brown. Consider it a bonus CD EP. Recorded at various Bay area college radio stations, this disk has the fun and loose delivery of a live show but with studio production and no distracting audience noise. Their psychedelic surf sound is a time machine

back to the early and the group can easily place their covers of "Walk Don't Run" or "Pipeline" (here in medley with "Auld Lang Syne") along with such signature originals as "Spanish Blue." Rhino chose that song to represent the contemporary surf sound on a compilation it produced for Hard Rock Café. So many signature tunes and great covers, this is a veritable live greatest hits from the group.

-Tom 'Tearaway' Schulte

LOCALE A.M. THE SOUNDS OF SPRING POP SMEAR RECORDS

There isn't one thing to say about LOCALE A.M. that would sum up their style, but for the majority they stick with a poppy punk persuasion. The music is catchy to say the least, especially "Buddha Rock," and youthful exuberance shines through on all 12 tracks. My favorite track on the disc would be the ska punk goodness of "I'll Be Your Gatsby," with the rap song "Chapters" coming in at a close second. Although they may become a better band if they stuck with one genre and perfected it, I still kind of like that each song sounds completely different. You literally get some punk, some ska, some emo, some rap, and some miscellaneous stuff from this LOCALE A.M. release. There's basically something for everyone with it.

-Dane Jackson

BLOWBACK TRACK III STRING BREAK RECORDS

Politically fueled hardcore that actually delivers more bite than bark. Extreme social commentary on government policy, human rights (or lack of) and class struggle. Singer Carlos has actual real world political ties, as he is a Capitol Hill Lobbyist. So it becomes quite apparent that these guys have perspectives that are squarely rooted in reality rather than conceptual gimmickry. Music wise, they are reminiscent to the old school hardcore noise of heavy hitters like MDC and early AGNOSTIC FRONT combined with the brutal assault of current bands like SHUTDOWN and DEATH THREAT. Yeah these guys sound pretty angry and it is evident in their songs. Fast, hard, loud and socially conscience. Everything a good hardcore band should be!

-Lugz

JONATHAN RICHMAN THE BEST OF JONATHAN RICHMAN ROUNDER

Jonathan Richman exudes joy and a free, easy happiness in his music. He often effectively personalizes his delivery by opening up interior monologues, or even whole interior conversations as in the biographical "Monologue About Bermuda." This touches on the psychological transition from the Modern Lovers to his solo career. Richman celebrates in his music; "Everyday Clothes," gothic girls and dancing freely in a Lesbian bar are all origination points for cheerful, idiosyncratic songs on this collection, a worthy edition in Rounder's 30-album Heritage series marking true highlights in the Rounder catalog. It may be more difficult to swallow his cartoonish renditions of "Action Packed" or "The Heart of Saturday Night," but listen to his "Parties in the U.S.A." done to the tune of "Hang on Sloopy" and you will know Jonathan Richman is a pocket reduction of that party-inducing frat sound.

-Tom 'Tearaway' Schulte

THE REPUTATION THE REPUTATION INITIAL RECORDS

As front-woman of the late 90's band Sarge, Elizabeth Elmore makes her return with a new band and a new record that is too rock for pop, and too indie for punk but wrests itself a niche in the periphery of genre-breeding. The first four tracks of the bands self-titled disc are what catch your attention about The Reputation. If the listener is careful, they will notice a progression in them rather than assume that the initial melodic guitar hooks and Elmore's shimmering vocals are what The Reputation will spend the next nine tracks thriving on. "Either Coast" is guilty for the initial hooking, but leads into an manifesto on the often grueling work of playing bar after bar in "Stars of Amateur Hour," followed by "Misery By Design," probably the disc's fiercest track. Elmore's songwriting throughout is exceptional, loaded with striking lines like "you've learned to play the victim perfectly/if everything's my fault you're not to blame/ for all your simpering diatribes on how I caused you so much pain." The Reputation is inspired.

-Jory Dominguez

BLACK LABEL SOCIETY 1919 ETERNAL SPITFIRE

Upon opening the new disc from Zakk Wylde's Black Label Society, you see a picture of his pops, decked out in military garb and when peeling the CD from its precarious position. It leads you to a harbinging picture of the statuesque six stringer, as if he took the lead role of Jack London's CALL OF THE WILD and made it his own. The album, much like these photos, echoes the sentiments of honor, patriotism (check out Zakk's stirring rendition of "America The Beautiful"), loyalty and commitment, only it's Wylde's job to preserve hard rock this time around. And he does so unabashedly, with little fanfare and with jackhammer like alacrity. From punishing guitar chuggers ("Bleed For Me," "Genocide Junkies," "Demise Of Sanity") to softer Southern tinged acoustic tunes ("Bridge To Cross"), BLS covers a lot of ground on this 14 track salute to BLS Chapter members across the US. His style, falling somewhere in between Lynyrd Skynyrd and Pantera, holds up throughout the entire disc, as the crushing "Battering Ram" and the prolific "Lost Heaven" being immediate stand-outs. Yet, every track on BLS's latest can be considered a rip roaring success, as they showcase Zakk's passionate performance as well as his deep and powerful songwriting abilities. Black Label Society bring it heavy, brutal and most importantly, honest, a trait you'll seldom see in the music industry these days. For a hard rocking trip you'll enjoy taking again and again, check out Black Label Society's newest release, and feel the intense pride that Zakk exudes for yourself. (www.spitfirerecords.com)

-Mike SOS

I don't like
Horse
Theebes.

HIGH ON FIRE SURROUNDED BY THIEVES RELAPSE

High On Fire are a masterful band whose craft of sludgy songwriting and their uncanny knack for hammering out a jam from a single riff should have the stoner rock fan in you howling in delight. This trio has the volume of 20 men, and their blackened mammoth attack is fortified with throaty growls that'd make Lemmy raise his glass ("Hung, Drawn And Quartered") and a plethora of chugging rhythms, volumizing drumming and an overall dense din that shakes you to your soul. Eight tracks aren't enough to satisfy the savage beast in you, but that's unfortunately all you get here, but damn, it's so worth it. High On Fire have got the low end covered so well, they're practically 6 inches away from being dead ("Nemesis"). For fans of doom, thrash and stoner rock, High On Fire provide enough Slayer, Sabbath and St. Vitus like carnage ("Surrounded By Thieves") to make you happy for the entire 40 minutes they rip your face off. (www.relapse.com)

-Mike SOS

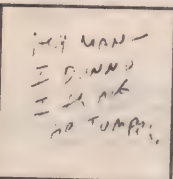


SUPERSUCKERS/ELECTRIC FRANKENSTEIN SPLITSVILLE VOLUME 1 TMC, INC.

Note to self: If you decide to start a split CD series, make sure you use bands that are actually good. Now that I have that out of the way...it's cool that TMC is jumping on the split CD bandwagon, but in my opinion the only two labels that put out quality discs are ASIAN MAN and BYO. No offense, but the SUPERSUCKERS and ELECTRIC FRANKENSTEIN are both bands with some very uninspired music. SUPERSUCKERS' inability to write decent lyrics is masked by the over repeating of the song name such as in "Shit Fire." There

really is nothing good to say about these two bands except they may have fit better back in the 70's with bands like THE STOOGES. After hearing this monstrosity, I can't wait for BYO to release the ANTI-FLAG, BOUNCING SOULS split later this year. At least those bands actually have talent.

-Dane Jackson



ANGEL DUST OF HUMAN BONDAGE CENTURY MEDIA

Angel Dust is a progressive metal outfit that really knows how to pour on the heavy, unlike many of the aforementioned bands in their genre. The latest 10 track release from this German quintet is nasty and gritty, encapsulating the prog rock keyboard ("Forever") amongst the Dream Theater-esque guitar riffs ("Inhuman"). Add to the mix a sheer sonic attack that sounds like an angrier version of Deep Purple for the 21st Century, and you've got a snarling monster on your hands in the form of Angel Dust. Imagine Megadeth lined with

keyboards ("Unreal Soul") for an idea of what to expect from this outfit that trips the metal fantastic. (www.centurymedia.com)

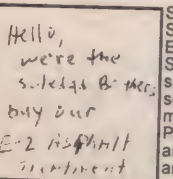
-Mike SOS



AMAZING TRANSPARENT MAN THE DEATH OF THE PARTY SPRINGMAN RECORDS

There was a time when music was fun, success was selling out, and junk food was as important as the music. ATM have found that time again with a clever, pun-laden third album that sounds like a mixture of The Queers and Chixdiggit. Songs like "Does Your Face Hurt? Cuz It's Killing Me," are indicative of the poppy-punk anarchy that this DeKalb, Ill., trio unleashes on the public. Their live shows are rumored to be unreal, with the band dressing in pink and often pulling Kaufmann-like stunts such as giving away cookies and milk, or valentines to the audience. Of course, what would you expect from a couple of full-time Subway employees and a professional model? They come with impressive credentials, though. Even the legendary Wesley Willis once told them, "You guys whup on a mule's ass." Check out ATM's insanity at their very quirky Web site www.a-t-m.net.

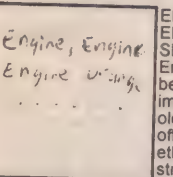
-DUG



SOLEDAD BROTHERS STEAL YOUR SOUL AND DARE YOUR SPIRIT TO MOVE ESTRUS RECORDS

Soledad Brothers comes from Toledo and that's long been a cultural suburb of Detroit. Soledad Brothers wholeheartedly accept that, sending specifics props to the Motor City on tow tracks here. Like much that came out of Detroit in the '60s, like the MC5 and Psychedelic Stooges, Soledad Brothers artfully blends heavy blues and burly hard rock. Horns and electric piano give the music real life and style on this mighty and muscular album of alt-blues rock.

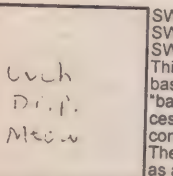
-Tom 'Tearaway' Schulte



ENGINE ORANGE ENGINE ORANGE SELF RELEASED CD

Engine Orange is a NY based hard-edged rap rock outfit. Now, before you get turned off by their classification and begin to evoke images of the hard edged costumed rap rockers that invade 13 year olds bedroom walls, let it be known that this sextet has a lot more to offer than a few rhymes, poor taste and power chords. In fact, their ethereal mix of keyboards, brooding melodies ("My October") and straight-ahead hard rock give these guys a texture that goes beyond the usual rap rock fodder. They even take it down acoustically for emphasis that these guys can do it all ("Send In The Clowns"). Instead, think of the technical excellence of Fear Factory mixed in with smatterings of Faith No More and Filter ("Friendly Politician") to get an idea of how this band ticks. Powerhouse drumming locks into a driving bass and guitar combo, accentuated by good usage of samples and sound effects and topped off by passionate vocals that range from freestyle rapping to raging rock screams ("My Right Fist"). Engine Orange is one of those rare bands that can do it all and transcend the genre in which they are familiar with. Do yourself a favor and check out this hybrid act while they're still an underground favorite.

-Mike SOS



SWITCHBLADE KITTENS SWITCHBLADE KITTENS SWITCHBLADE KITTENS, P.O. Box 93755, LA, CA 90093

This peppy female power pop band needs no guitar. Among the two bassists singer Drama plays on her invention, the guitar-sounding "bassorama" arrangement of playing through her own effects processing recipe. This earned them an endorsement from the Arias bass company. Their punk rock take on "My Heart Will Go On (Love Theme from Titanic)" earned them an impressive Internet following as an MP3 download. Their fun-spirited punk-pop music is infectious and driving; energetic indie rock with a velvet bite.

-Tom 'Tearaway' Schulte

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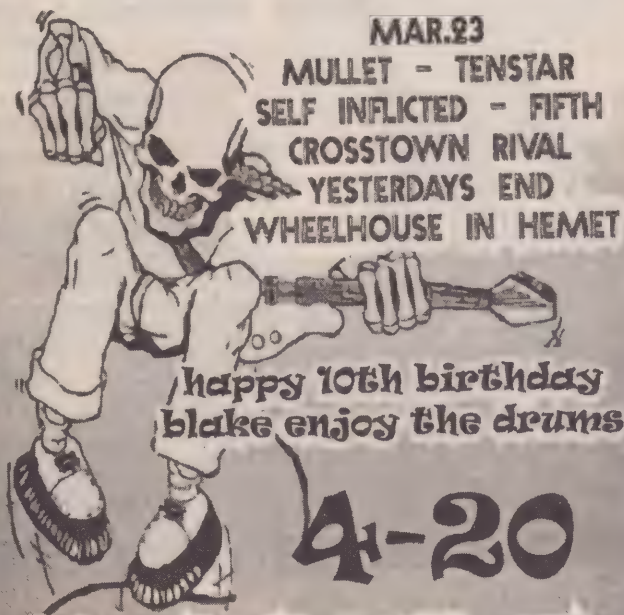
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WIND WRAITH THE FORTUNE TELLER'S GAZE SELF RELEASED CD

Wind Wraith is a Long Island based metal troupe who's penchant for Iron Maiden and Magic: The Gathering spawns the 10 tracks that comprise their latest offering. 80's metal all the way, complete with powerhouse display of percussion, a high pitched vocalist whose screams at time rival Dio ("High Hopes") and more galloping guitar lines than Maiden's greatest hits ("Together Alone") is what this band offers. While Wind Wraith's style may be a bit behind the times, they display a fine sense of melodic metal knowledge, no doubt by learning from bands such as Manowar, Helloween, and the ilk. Completing this sextet's epic metal journey are sturdy vocal lines across the board, as well as stellar song structures that stick to the tried and true verse-chorus-verse-solo-verse formula that makes metal sell out stadiums across Europe ("Ancient Tales"). Will they make a mark here in the States? Time will tell, as long as they keep up their spirited metal swagger about them. (www.windwraith.com)

-Mike SOS

L
IS For
Lopez

LOPEZ LOPEZ INFECT

Lopez is a straight up punk rock outfit that plays unrelentingly fast and are uncharacteristically angry and jaded, which is a pleasure to listen to when considering what gets passed for punk rock these days. Reminiscent of the late Snot and Amen when it comes to letting it all hang out, Lopez's balls to the wall assault is apparent on all 15 tracks. No filler here, or time for mushy love ballads either, as this California quintet take no shit and spit out high octane, back breaking punk rock whose hard living lyrics ("Alcoholic") supplement the moshpit inspiring music quite nicely. For a swift kick in the ass a la Black Flag and TSOL with a bit of D Generation mixed in, you'd be foolish not to check these guys out. This is the kind of unhomogenized punk rock that gives the genre back its credibility (or lack thereof). (www.homestead.com/lopezsux)

-Mike SOS



AVENGED SEVENFOLD SOUNDING THE SEVENTH TRUMPET HOPELESS

For those of you who are the survivors of the big hair and spandex pants movement, and are in hiding, this record is for you! You can come out, it's safe and let your hair (spray) flow free! The Avenged Sevenfold with its high E string solo riffs would make anyone sporting a half shirt and a mullet proud!

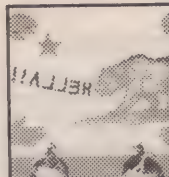
-Joeticjustice

H A H A
F U N N Y
I C A N N O T
D R A W M O U S E S

GRANIAN HANG AROUND SELF RELEASED CD

Granian's 12 tracks of upbeat modern rock could easily be passed off as a Live B-side or a misplaced Dave Matthews reel, as their acoustically driven music is laden with big hooks ("Far From Saved") and memorable refrains that would sound perfect alongside the likes of Matchbox Twenty and Fuel ("Hands Down"). While this style may be easily labeled as disposable or the new elevator music, Granian's passionate guitar performance ("Hang Around") and flare for recapturing the classic singer songwriters style isn't to be taken lightly ("Anchor"). All 12 tracks on this disc could find their way to a radio near you (how's that for accessibility?). Their sunny dispositions in tow, their ability to sweep 20 something's across the US out of their office chairs and whisk them away into a sublime landscape where "Friends" is televised 24/7 and the world is as easy as it was the sophomore year of college all over again. (www.granian.com)

-Mike SOS



HELLA HOLD YOUR HORSE IS 5 RUE CHRISTINE

Anytime I see an album title this clever, my guard goes up. Thankfully there are no whiny college-boy vocals (don't accuse me of prejudice motherfucker, I went to college too, you KNOW what kind of vocals I'm talking about) on this record. In fact, there aren't ANY vocals here. Instead, there are some cool post-punk instrumentals here that are pretty tight and proficient. There's some cool jamming going on here and this would probably be cool live, but there are moments when, in my stereo it comes across as a bit cluttered. However, when they fly, MAN do they fly. In their best moments, they kick out some tasty licks and tear the groove apart. They've got soul in the way that the Minutemen had soul, which is some damn good soul.

- Snotty Scotty

SCOTT M
I'm not
a girl
I'm not

UTOPIA BANISHED UTOPIA BANISHED SELF RELEASED CD

In the tradition of Scandinavian metal comes an outfit from Queens, NY whose musical prowess is on par with the Swedish metal contingent. Utopia Banished is their name, and their five track CD amply shows that this quintet is capable of pounding out the grooves and riffs much like Opeth and In Flames ("As It Descends"). With the typical growling metal vocal accompanying their very technically oriented metal assault, Utopia Banished aren't reinventing the wheel when it comes to metal. But, they aren't bashful to write a 5 minute plus song that holds your attention while showcasing the band's ability to gel into a massive metal machine. And for that, Utopia Banished may become a sizable force in the metal realm. (www.angelfire.com/ny5/bymourning)

-Mike SOS

THE ROCKINGHORSE WINNER
HORIZON
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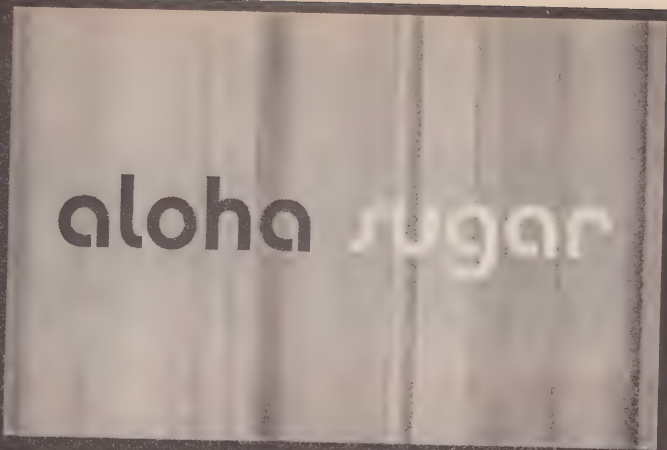
THE ROCKINGHORSE WINNER HORIZON EQUAL VISION RECORDS

When I find out a CD I have to review is fronted by a female, I usually cringe. It's not because women are inferior to men; it's just because for some reason a female-fronted band just doesn't do it for me. THE ROCKINGHORSE WINNER is a bit different though. Those of you who listen to DASHBOARD CONFSSIONAL may recognize the vocalist as a guest vocalist for some of his music. Jolie Lindholm has stepped out from under DASHBOARD's shadow and created her own band. They're worth taking a listen to, especially if you enjoy listening to a CD that is predominantly happy pop sounding album with some lo-fi stuff mixed in for good measures. The album will probably appeal more to a female audience, but there are many things going on musically that may help it transcend genders. Plus, the drummer thanks Dave Attell in the liner notes.

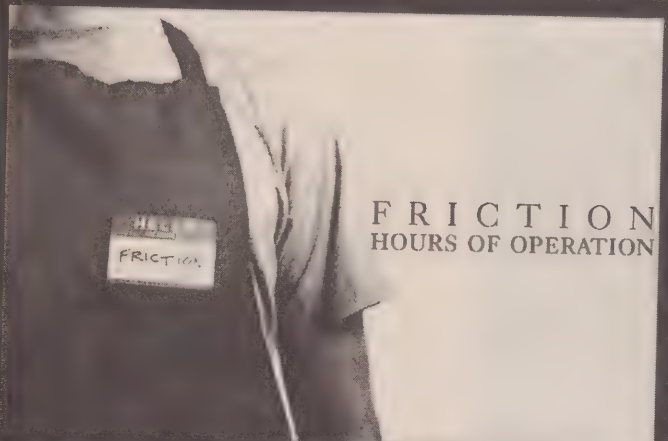
-Dane Jackson



SUNDAY'S BEST the CALIFORNIAN



aloha sugar

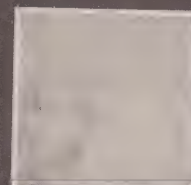


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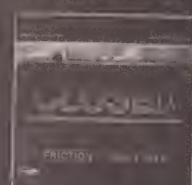
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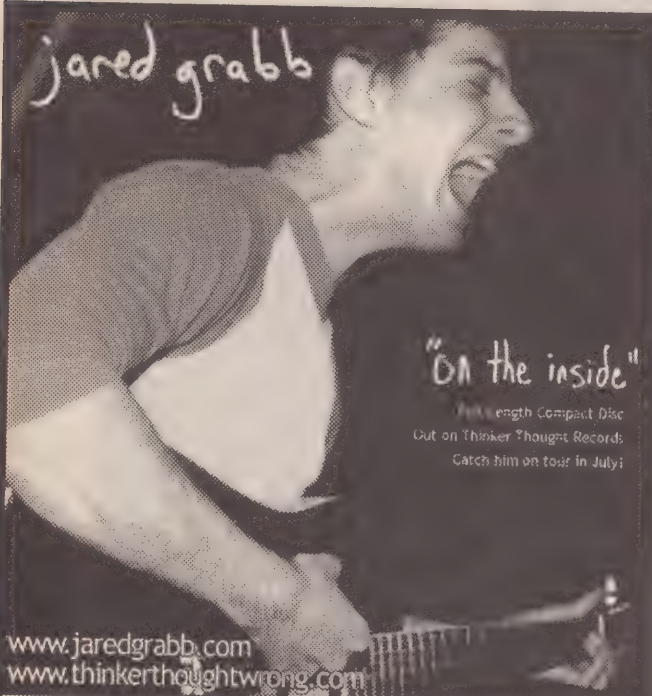


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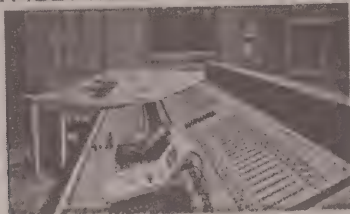
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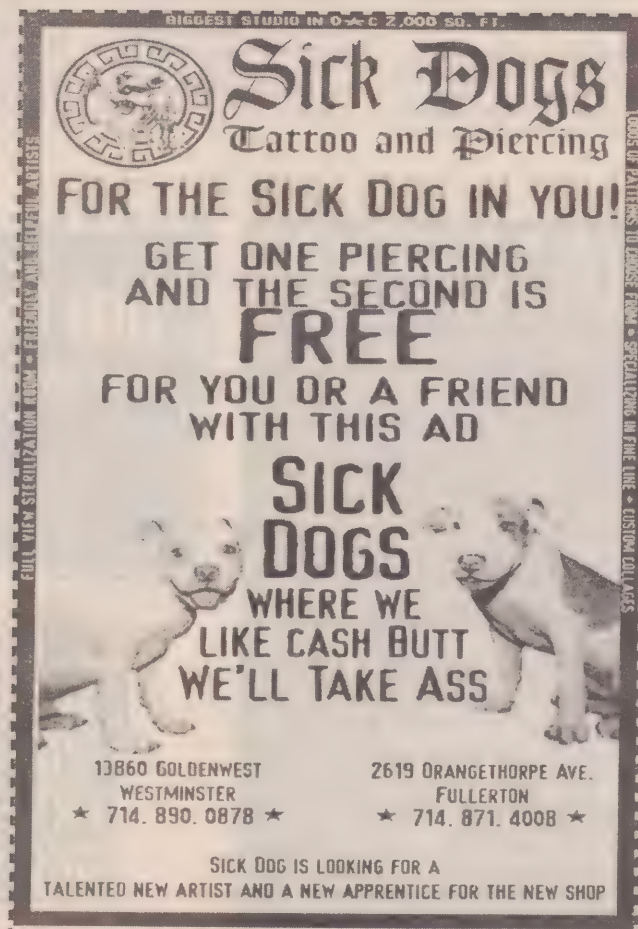
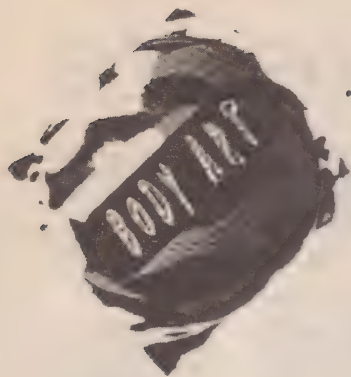
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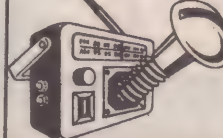
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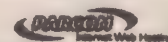
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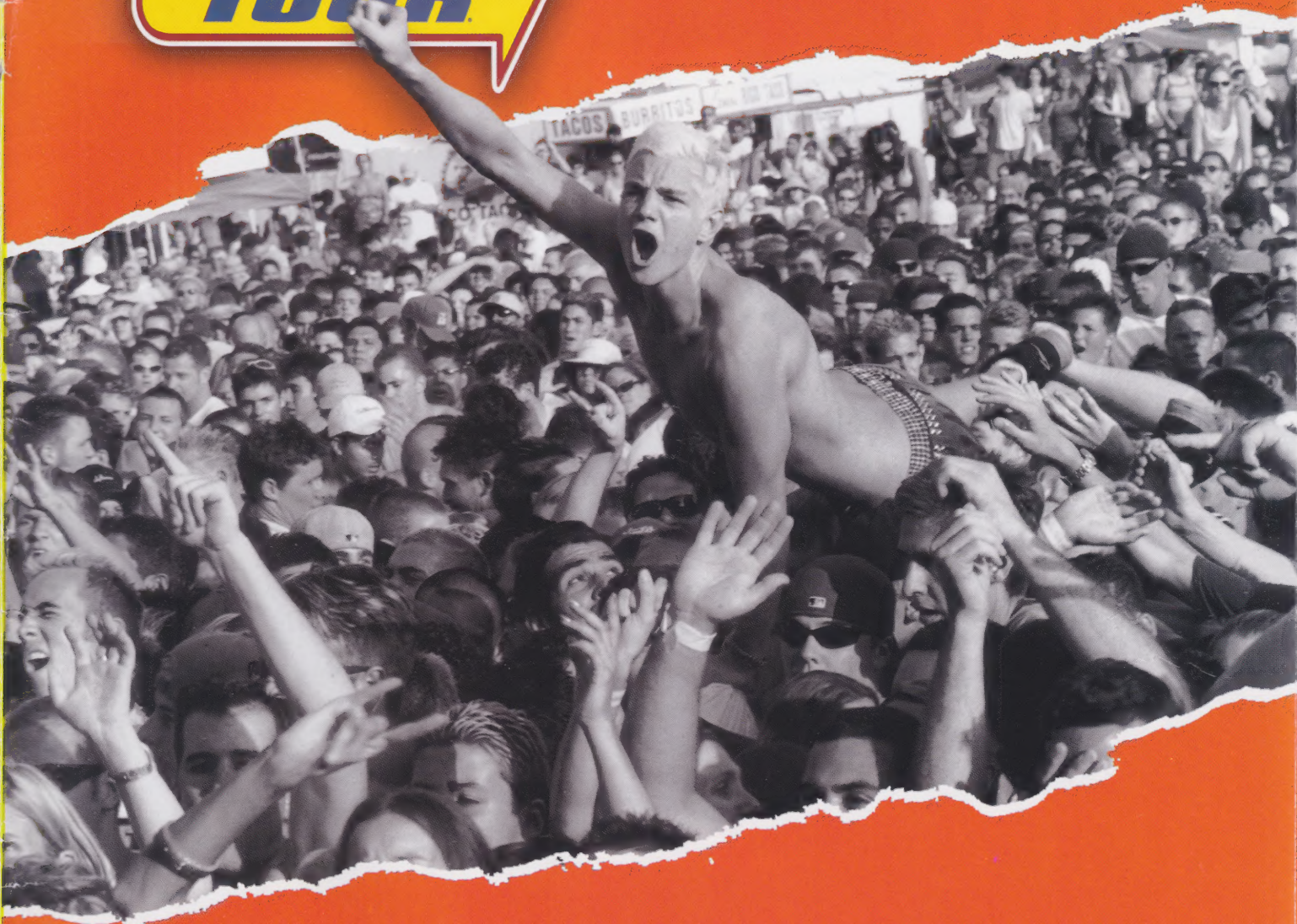
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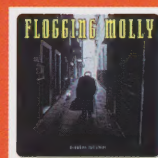
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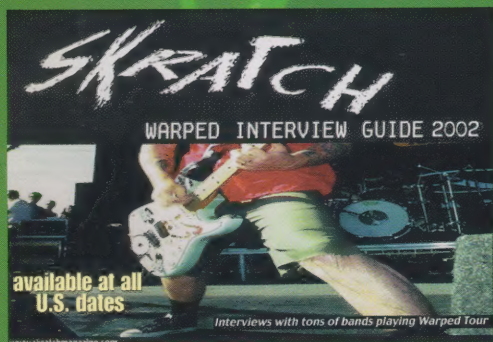


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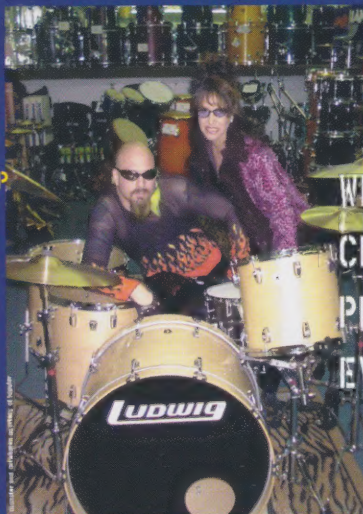
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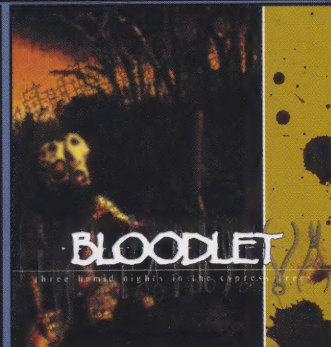
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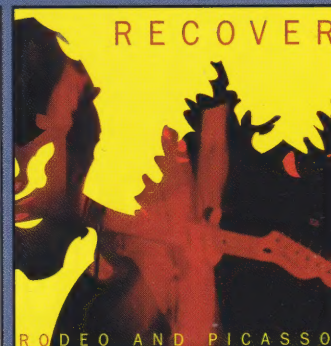
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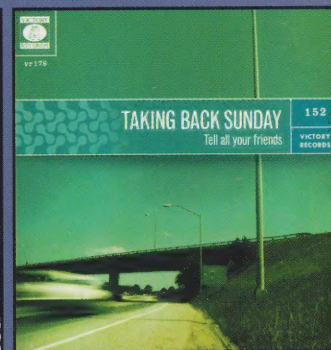
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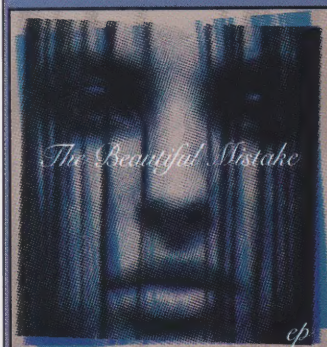
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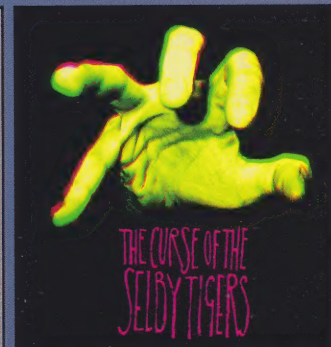
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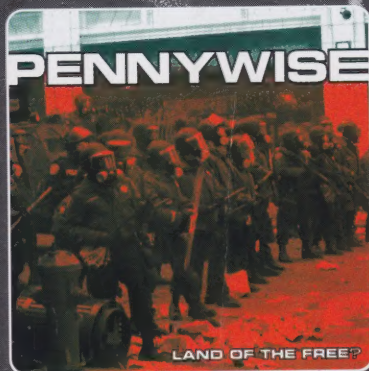
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